

November 21, 2019

**TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY:** Your County Personnel and Human Services Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (“MIDC”) was created by Public Act 93 of 2013; and

**WHEREAS,** in 2016, the Berrien County Board of Commissioners authorized the creation of a Public Defender’s Office and established staff levels for such office; and

**WHEREAS,** in order to continue to improve the legal representation provided to indigent individuals charged with a crime and to reduce the County’s reliance on contractual attorneys, it has been determined that additional staff is needed in the Public Defender’s Office; and

**WHEREAS,** the MIDC, who provides grant funding for indigent defense, has included grant funding in the FY2020 grant agreement for the additional staff.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners approves the following complement changes for the Public Defender’s Office, contingent upon Board approval of the MIDC agreement approved via Resolution #A1911335:

**ADD:**

5 – Assistant Public Defender(s)  
(1.0 FTE)  
Non-Union Grade 11-14

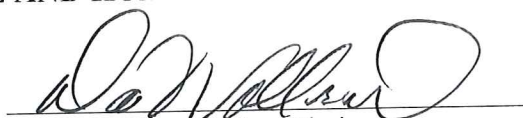
1 – Legal Secretary  
(1.0 FTE)  
Union Grade 4

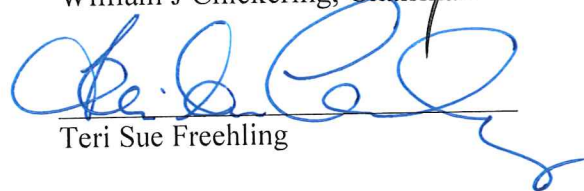
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that these positions will be subject to elimination if the above referenced Grant is no longer sufficient to cover the cost of same in accordance with the terms of the Grant Agreement.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**BERRIEN COUNTY PERSONNEL AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William J Chickering, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Vollrath, Vice-Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Teri Sue Freehling

|                                |                          |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| RESOLUTION APPROVED AS TO FORM |                          |
| Administrator <u>  m  </u>     | Date <u>  11/14/19  </u> |
| Comments Attached _____        |                          |
| Corporate Counsel <u>  2  </u> | Date <u>  11.18.19  </u> |
| Comments Attached _____        |                          |