



LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN
LIVINGSTON COUNTY TRIAL COURTS
JUVENILE & PROBATE DIVISIONS

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Memorandum

To: Livingston County Board of Commissioners

From: Deborah Shaw, Juvenile & Probate Court Administrator

Date: February 17, 2021

Re: Resolution Authorizing Court Appointed Attorney Contracts for the 44th Circuit Court – Juvenile Division

The Circuit Court, Juvenile Division, maintains a Master List of available attorneys to provide legal representation to minor children and parents in child protective proceedings and respondent children in juvenile delinquency proceedings. Cases are assigned by rotation, subject to the attorney's availability.

Per the County Procurement Policy, a non-competitive Request for Qualification (RFQu) bid process was performed with CoPro+, the County's procurement partner. The RFQu was posted on the County's website and on BidNet. It was emailed directly to all attorneys then serving on the Juvenile Court Appointment List and the Livingston County Bar Association, which subsequently publicized the need and opportunity to its' members. Thirteen (13) responses were received, evaluated and determined to be qualified by Chief Judge Hatty; Chief Judge Cavanaugh; and Judge McGivney, Presiding Judge of the Family Division. Three (3) of the attorneys, with limited experience, will be mentored by attorneys experienced in the practice of Juvenile law.

The attached resolution authorizes contracts with thirteen(13) attorneys and firms to provide Court Appointed Attorney services for the period of March 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, with the option of up to two (2) one-year renewals for a total contract period of up to three (3) years. The resolution further authorizes the re-opening of the Request for Qualifications (RFQu) and contracting with additional attorneys or firms, at the discretion of the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court, in order to supplement the master list of qualified attorneys.

Funding for Court Appointed Attorney contracts is available in the Juvenile Court General Fund budget, augmented by the Child and Parent Legal Representation Grant (Resolution 2020-08-193). These are indefinitely quantity, indefinitely delivery contracts within the established payment structure. Historical spending on Juvenile Court Appointed Attorney services is as follows:

YEAR	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	5YR AVRG
COST OF SERVICE	\$269,229	\$225,219	\$230,948	\$210,289	\$185,179	\$224,173
COLLECTED	(\$55,495)	(\$55,092)	(\$35,528)	(\$74,527)	(\$54,451)	(\$55,019)
GRANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$24,374)	(\$4,875)
NET GF IMPACT	\$213,734	\$170,127	\$195,420	\$135,762	\$106,354	\$164,279

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of the Livingston County Trial Courts. If you have questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.