



Lake County Illinois

Legislation Text

File #: 10-0020, Version: 1

Joint resolution approving an emergency appropriation from the State's Attorney's Asset Forfeiture Fund for new audio/video recording equipment at the Children's Advocacy Center.

- The Lake County Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) investigates allegations of child physical and sexual abuse, and advocates for child victims of such abuse in coordination with local police departments, Illinois Department of Child and Family Services and other state and federal agencies.
- The CAC follows best practices including the recording of all audio/video interviews of children.
- The CAC has four interview rooms at its facility, all outfitted with audio and video recording equipment.
- The recording of child victims' interviews has several benefits, including: reducing the need for multiple interviews (all multi-disciplinary team members can review the video rather than re-interview the child); capturing all forms of communication (verbal and non-verbal); capturing images of the child at age of disclosure; and refuting or supporting defense claims of "leading questions."
- It is necessary to replace the existing, antiquated equipment now due to critical system failures and system inefficiencies.
- One interview room is not being utilized because the equipment has failed and interviews can not be recorded and the equipment in the remaining three interview rooms is failing and is not reliable.
- With the current system, recordings have been compromised and are irretrievable.
- A new system will include four Digital Video Recorders (DVRs) each with 500 Gigabytes (GB) of memory, a mouse and a keyboard.
- The State's Attorney's Office's Asset Forfeiture Fund has sufficient funds to pay for the new system, which costs approximately \$9,000.
- The purchase of this new equipment was not budgeted in the State's Attorney's Asset Forfeiture Fund FY2010 budget, therefore a resolution is requested to approve the purchase.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the State's Attorney's Office has identified a critical need to replace the audio/video recording equipment at its Children's Advocacy Center; and

WHEREAS, offsetting revenue from the State's Attorneys Asset Forfeiture Fund is available; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of this equipment will cost approximately \$9,000 and will be charged to account 760-3318010-72790; and

WHEREAS, an emergency appropriation is requested for this expense, since it was not included in the State's Attorney's Asset Forfeiture Fund Fiscal Year 2010 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by this County Board of Lake County, Illinois, that the purchase of new audio/video recording equipment for the Lake County Children's Advocacy Center is approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an emergency appropriation for the expense of

approximately \$9,000, is hereby authorized.

DATED, at Waukegan, Lake County, Illinois on this 12th day of January, A.D., 2010