

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
ASSIGNED COUNSEL AGENDA
September 22, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Supervisors MADAY, Conover, Strainer, Gilligan, Driscoll, Butler and O'Neill - *Chair of the Board shall serve as an Ex-Officio member when needed in accordance with Section C (4) of the Rules of the Board*

- I. Committee meeting called to order by Chair
- II. Approval of minutes of prior Committee Meeting
- III. Privilege of the floor and public comment
- IV. Action Agenda/New Business Items:
 1. Request:
 2. Rationale:
 3. Request:
Rationale:
 4. Request:
Rationale:
- V. Discussion Items: 2027 Budget Request
- VI. Referrals/Pending Items:
- VII. Privilege of the floor and public comment
- VIII. Motion to adjourn

Attachments:

1. 2027 Budget Packet

Warren County Assigned Counsel Office

2027 Budget Recap

2027 Initiatives & Goals

Maintain Voucher Costs While Providing Exceptional Attorney Services:

Effective April 1, 2023, the assigned counsel rate for attorneys more than doubled from \$60 an hour for misdemeanors and \$75 an hour for felonies and Family Court matters, to \$158 an hour for all attorney services. Since the rate increase, the Assigned Counsel Office has been able to keep the annual attorney voucher costs stagnant despite rising costs. Our office has implemented a tiered system of prioritizing assigning local attorneys to keep travel time and mileage costs down as much as possible. Over the last two years we have recouped over \$500,000 from the state for partial reimbursement for the rate increase. In 2027, we will continue to focus on keeping voucher costs low while enabling our panel of attorneys to provide quality legal representation to our residents.

Grant Funding Utilization:

Our aim for 2027 is to continue to ensure we maximize our usage of grant funding received from all sources including the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services (ILS) and the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). These grants have allowed us to improve the quality of representation to the residents of Warren County while keeping costs to the taxpayer as low as possible. We have utilized ILS funds to upgrade our workspace at no cost to the County, provide legal research tools and expert and investigator services to our panel of attorneys. The DCJS funding has been utilized to defray voucher costs and upgrade our case management and billing software.

Case Management System:

Our new case management system, LegalServer, paid for with a grant from the Division of Criminal Justice Services, has been a tremendous addition to our office. This system allows us to track data required to be reported to Indigent Legal Services (ILS) as part of our grant funding as well provided a platform for attorney billing. LegalServer replaced a much less cost-effective program while also continuing to maximize our efficiency. In 2027, we will continue to familiarize ourselves with the LegalServer functionality to streamline our data tracking and billing procedures.

WARREN COUNTY BUDGET SUMMARY SHEET
2027 ASSIGNED COUNSEL COUNSEL OVERVIEW

Account Code			2025 Actual Amount	2026 Adopted	2026 Amended	2027 Department Requests	
A.1170	1170	WC	\$1,365,848.88	\$1,397,961.00	\$1,397,961.00	\$1,397,674.00	66.19%
	4210	HH	\$227,457.82	\$456,311.00	\$456,311.00	\$506,311.00	23.98%
	4211	Dist #14	\$47,280.03	\$99,763.00	\$99,763.00	\$99,763.00	4.72%
	4212	DCJS-Supp	\$50,562.71	\$0.00	\$49,037.33	\$45,000.00	2.13%
	4213	DCJS-Disc	\$45,050.00	\$0.00	\$49,545.34	\$45,000.00	2.13%
	4214	Fam Def	\$3,300.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	0.85%
TOTALS			\$1,739,499.44	\$1,972,035.00	\$2,070,617.67	\$2,111,748.00	100.00%

Account Code			2025 Revenues	2026 Adopted	2026 Amended	2027 Department Requests
A.1170	1170	WC	\$272,193.11	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00	\$250,000.00
	4210	HH	\$226,345.20	\$456,311.00	\$456,311.00	\$506,311.00
	4211	Dist #14	\$38,298.78	\$99,763.00	\$99,763.00	\$99,763.00
	4212	DCJS-Supp	\$50,562.71	\$0.00	\$49,037.33	\$45,000.00
	4213	DCJS-Disc	\$45,050.00	\$0.00	\$49,545.34	\$45,000.00
	4214	Fam Def	\$3,300.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
TOTALS			\$635,749.80	\$874,074.00	\$972,656.67	\$964,074.00

TOTAL SUMMARY		\$1,103,749.64	\$1,097,961.00	\$1,097,961.00	\$1,147,674.00
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COUNTY	66.19%
ILS	29.55%
DCJS	4.26%