

Agenda Summary Report (ASR)

Franklin County Board of Commissioners

DATE SUBMITTED: 08-29-2023		PREPARED BY: Larry Zeigler	
Meeting Date Requested: 09-13-2023		PRESENTED BY: Larry Zeigler	
ITEM: (Select One)		Consent Agenda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brought Before the Board Time needed: 15 minutes
SUBJECT: Authorization for the OPD Manager to hire attorney at grade 20 or 21, at the appropriate step, based upon experience and the needs of the Office of Public Defense, as determined by the department head.			
FISCAL IMPACT: There are currently unfilled vacancies for felony defenders positions. Due to the number of vacancies, we are unlikely to exceed current 2023 budget. We are also seeking to use ARPA funding under appropriate circumstances minimizing impact upon county budget for 2023.			
BACKGROUND: OPD is faced with a crisis regarding the staffing of defenders. Currently we are down several attorneys. The manager needs authority to hire qualified candidates and offer salaries appropriate to said qualified candidates, without prior approval from the Board of Commissioners. This will allow extending a job offer to qualified attorneys at the appropriate steps within grade 20 and 21 as determined by the OPD manager. This will ensure certainty among potential candidates to accept a contract of an offer of employment from Franklin County without risk of their being lost to other employers.			
COORDINATION: Larry Zeigler, OPD Manager (in agreement) Whitney Conner, Office Coordinator (in agreement) Mike Gonzalez, County Administrator (in agreement) Margret Wilder, HR Department (N/A) Tim Anderson, Auditor's Office (N/A)			
RECOMMENDATION: Approve resolution as presented.			
ATTACHMENTS: ASR –Resolution			
HANDLING / ROUTING: (Once document is fully executed, it will be imported into Document Manager. Please list name(s) of party(s) that will need a pdf.) Original : Clerk of the Board Teresa Alvarez, pdf Copy: Accounting, HR, OPD			

I certify the above information is accurate and complete.

Larry Zeigler, OPD Manager

FRANKLIN COUNTY RESOLUTION _____

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

***AUTHORIZATION FOR OPD MANAGER TO HIRE ATTORNEY AT
GRADE 20 OR 21 AS NECESSARY.***

WHEREAS, Franklin County is obligated by law to provide indigent defense services in Franklin County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Franklin County Commissioners constitutes the legislative authority for Franklin County and desires to approve this resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin County Office of Public Defense is faced with a crisis regarding staffing of felony defenders and is currently down several attorneys; and

WHEREAS, the OPD Manager is seeking authority to hire qualified candidates and offer appropriate salaries at grade 20 or 21 at the necessary steps determined by the skills and qualifications of said applicant(s) and needs of the office.

WHEREAS, this to be done without prior approval from the Board of Commissioners to designate the appropriate step within those grades; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Franklin County Board of Commissioners approve this resolution as presented.

DATED this _____ of _____, 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Chairman

Chairman Pro Tem

Member

ATTEST:

Clerk to the Board

*Originals: Commissioners Office
Copy: Office of Public Defense, HR, Accounting*