



# Pinellas County

## Staff Report

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File #: 16-562A, Version: 1

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### **Subject:**

Extension of the Interlocal Agreement with the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida for County-funded court employees.

### **Recommended Action:**

Approve the extension of the agreement between Pinellas County (County) and the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida (Court) for county funded court employees.

### **Strategic Plan:**

Ensure Public Health, Safety and Welfare

2.2 Be a facilitator, convener, and purchaser of services for those in need.

### **Summary:**

This agreement provides funding for additional court personnel to assist in the operation of the Sixth Judicial Circuit. The county funded court employees are assigned to the following divisions: Court Technology, Behavioral Evaluations, Juvenile Diversion, Drug Court, Law Library and Family Court. The 2009 Interlocal Agreement expires on June 30, 2016 and is being extended for an additional four years through June 30, 2020.

### **Background Information:**

The applicable laws that provide for the establishment of the original agreement are Article V, Sections 2(a) and (14), Florida Constitution, and Chapters 29 and 43, Florida Statutes. This agreement delineates the respective powers, privileges, and responsibilities of the County and the Court regarding county funded court employees. Under Florida Statute Section 29.0081, a County may enter into an agreement to fund personnel positions to assist in the operation of the Court. The current agreement does not commit Pinellas County to specific funding levels for this assistance.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

The Judiciary's FY2016 budget includes operational and administrative support for the Circuit and County Courts within Pinellas County. The total value associated with this agreement is approximately \$2,875,860 for forty (40) full time positions. The Board provides funding for statutorily required positions, communications, technology, and certain local option programs pursuant to Article V, Revision 7 of the State Constitution.

### **Staff Member Responsible:**

Lourdes Benedict, Director of Human Services

### **Partners:**

Sixth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida

### **Attachments:**

Extension of Agreement for County Funded Court Employees  
List of County Funded Court Employees 2016

Court Counsel Memo  
2009 County Funded Court Employees Agreement