



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 19-247D, **Version:** 1

Subject:

Administrative Budget Amendment No. 1 for the FY19 Budget for the Public Defender within the General Fund.

Recommended Action:

Approval and execution by the County Administrator of Administrative Budget Amendment No. 1 for the FY19 Budget for the Public Defender within the General Fund.

- Board Budget Amendment No. 1, approved by the Board of County Commissioners on December 11, 2018, realigned appropriation from Reserves to fund eight (8) programs that were contingent upon failure of Amendment 1 in the November 6, 2018 election.
- Two (2) Public Defender programs received additional funds: Public Defender Special Program - Ready for Life (\$75,000.00); and Public Defender - Jail Diversion (\$35,000.00).
- This Administrative Amendment is needed to correct an account coding error between the two (2) Public Defender programs in Board Budget Amendment No. 1. The coding directed \$75,000.00 to Jail Diversion and \$35,000.00 to Ready for Life. This correction realigns the \$40,000.00 difference to bring each program to the funding levels previously approved by the Board.

Strategic Plan:

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and our Customers

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources.

Summary:

This amendment realigns Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) appropriations for professional services of \$40,000.00 between Public Defender cost centers and programs. It does not change the total General Fund appropriation to the Public Defender budget.

Background/Explanation:

Board Budget Amendment No. 1 (#18-1894A), which was approved on December 11, 2018, appropriated funding for FY19 that was contingent upon the failure of Amendment 1 in the November 6, 2018 election. The approved funding included two (2) Public Defender programs, but a coding error in the original amendment directed \$75,000.00 to Jail Diversion and \$35,000.00 to Ready for Life. This Administrative Amendment realigns \$40,000.00 from Jail Diversion to Ready for Life to bring each program to the levels previously approved by the Board.

Fiscal Impact:

Administrative Budget Amendments reallocate previously budgeted funds within a department and do not change the total appropriation for that department. This allocation is consistent with the Public Defender's FY19 expense estimates provided for the FY20 budget development process.

Delegated Authority:

Authority for the County Administrator to sign this Administrative Budget Amendment is granted under Florida Statutes. In accordance with Section 129.06, F.S., the Board of County Commissioners (Board) may establish procedures by which the designated Budget Officer may authorize certain budget amendments. The Board approved delegation of this authority to the County Administrator with Resolution No. 04-62 on April 13, 2004.

Staff Member Responsible:

Jim Abernathy, Budget & Financial Management Analyst,
Office of Management & Budget

Partners:

Public Defender

Attachments:

Administrative Budget Amendment A-19-01