

AGENDA
JUDICIAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, March 7, 2025
TIME: 9:00 AM
LOCATION: Courthouse, Room 302

1. Call meeting to order & declaration of quorum.
2. Public comments. Now or at the time the item is taken up. Rules may apply.
3. Review minutes from previous meetings.
4. Review any claims, notices of injury, or litigation against the County, as necessary.
5. Review any Dog License Fee Fund claims.
6. Review for approval the vouchers and monthly reports of departments the committee oversees.
7. Presentation of correspondence and legislative issues or referrals and recognition of Legislators who may be present.
 - a. Report of Citizens Water Group.
8. Resolution – Increase in state funding for courts (Stimac)
9. Purchase of software to assist in electronic charging and document redaction (Barnett)
10. Converting vacant District Attorney Legal Assistant position to an Office Manager position (Barnett)
11. Review County Board Rules.
12. Attendance at meetings.
13. Consideration of agenda items for next meeting.
14. Set date and time of next meeting – Friday, April 4, 2025 – 9:00 AM.
15. Adjourn.

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll
Meeting number (access code): 2496 051 1938

Join by WebEx App or Web

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=m07c90fd8a691901c1c3cd5860cb530d0>
Meeting number (access code): 2496 051 1938
Meeting password: 030725

MINUTES
JUDICIAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 6, 2025

TIME: 1:00 PM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 114

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Clendenning, Bill Leichtnam, William Voight, Russ Perlock

MEMBER EXCUSED: Tim Hovendick

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; See attached sign-in list

1. Chairman Clendenning called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by Voight/Leichtnam to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2025, meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. There were two claims to the dog fund from Progressive Veterinary Services, LLC and South Wood County Humane Society. Motion by Perlock/Voight to approve the payment of these claims from the dog fund. Motion carried unanimously.
5. The vouchers and reports from the departments the committee oversees were reviewed. Motion by Leichtnam/Voight to approve them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Pursuant to Wis Stats 59.42, the committee needs to confirm the appointment of Nicholas Flanagan as Corporation Counsel, effective March 3, 2025. Motion by Leichtnam/Voight to approve the appointment as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
7. The newly seated District Attorney, Jonathan Barnett, and the new Criminal Justice Coordinator, Dillon Ksionek highlighted the items they are working on in the first month in their respective positions.
8. Incoming Corp Counsel Flanagan led the committee through a number of the draft county board rules from the Wisconsin Counties Association and wrapped our current rules into the WCA rule format. Work will continue on this project.
9. There were budget amending resolutions presented from Clerk of Courts, Victim Witness, and Corporation Counsel. Motion by Voight/Perlock to approve the resolutions and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
10. Supervisor Leichtnam provided a report of the Citizens Water Group.
11. Chairman Clendenning asked the committee for approval of per diem for a meeting he had with the new District Attorney and Criminal Justice Coordinator and for the Legislative meeting in Monroe County. Motion by Leichtnam/Voight to approve the per diem request as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

12. The next meeting will be held on Friday, March 7, 2025, at 9:00 AM.

13. Chairman Clendenning declared the meeting adjourned at 2:04 PM.

Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

**Judicial & Legislative Committee
February 6, 2025**

NAME	REPRESENTING
Russ PEVlock	WCB #4
DENNIS POLACH	WCB - 14
Katie Miloch	WCHSD
Alvin Panatier	V. Witness
Jonathan E. Barnett	DA.
Dillon Kionek	Criminal Justice
Kimi Strina	C.O.C.
Peter Kaspritz	Corp. Cr.
Brent Krynwick	CSA
Tara Jensen (WebEx)	Register in Probate.
Tiffany Ringer (WebEx)	Register of Deeds

Hupy and Abraham s.c.

personal injury lawyers

111 East Kilbourn Avenue, Suite 1100
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Tel 414.223.4800 | Fax 414.271.3374

February 17, 2025

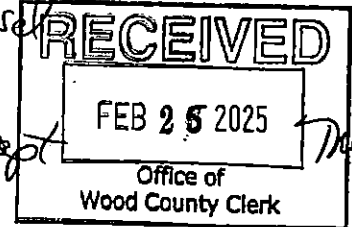
Name: _____
Date: 2/25/25
Time: 4:20 AM/PM

VIA PERSONAL SERVICE

Wood County Clerk
Trent Miner
Wood County Courthouse, Room 101
400 Market Street
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54494

Re: Our Client: JoAnn Olson for Sewayna E. Bombagi
Date of Incident: December 8, 2024

cc: Corp Counsel
HR
Sheriff's Dept



Dear Mr. Miner,

We represent the claimant noted above. Please find enclosed the original Notice of Injury for the above-referenced matter. Also please find four copies for your records. I would kindly ask that you file-stamp receive one copy and return it to me in the envelope provided.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
HUPY AND ABRAHAM, S.C.

/s/ Jhalia N. Evans
Litigation Assistant

Enclosures

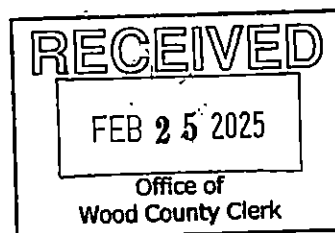
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NOTICE OF INJURY

TO: Wood County Clerk
c/o Trent Miner
Wood County Courthouse, Room 101
400 Market Street
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54494



Wood County Sheriff
c/o Shawn Becker
Wood County Sheriff's Office
400 Market Street
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54494

*cc: Corp Counsel
HR
Sheriff's Dept*

Grand Rapids Town Clerk
c/o Lisa Dotter
2410 48th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54494

Chief of Police
c/o Joe Zurfluh
Grand Rapids Police Department
2410 48th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54494

Wisconsin Rapids City Clerk
c/o Jennifer Gossick
444 West Grand Avenue, First Floor
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54495

Chief of Police
c/o Daniel J. Hostens
Wisconsin Rapids Police Department
444 West Grand Avenue
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54495

John Doe(s)
(address unknown)

RE: Sewayna E. Bombagi
By JoAnn T. Olson
216671 County Road KK
Mosinee, Wisconsin 54455

Date of Accident: December 8, 2024
Location: 7510 Kellner Road
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54494

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 893.80, that on December 8, 2024, at approximately 11:40 P.M., Sewayna E. Bombagi, was at her residence, located at or near 7510 Kellner Road, in the Town of Wisconsin Rapids, County of Wood, Wisconsin, Zip Code 54494, when Officer(s) John Doe(s) of the Grand Rapids Police Department, Wisconsin Rapids Police Department, and/or Wood County Sherriff's office intentionally, recklessly, and/or negligently attacked and/or used excessive force on Sewayna E. Bombagi during a wellness check, thereby causing the injuries, damages, and subsequent death of Sewayna E. Bombagi.

As a result of this incident, Sewayna E. Bombagi sustained injuries and damages and subsequently died. A claim for damages under § 893.80 will be made at a later date.

Liability for Sewayna E. Bombagi's injuries, damages, and subsequent death is attributed to Wood County, the Wood County Sheriff's Office, the Town of Grand Rapids, the Grand Rapids Police Department, the City of Wisconsin Rapids and/or the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department pursuant to the theory of *Respondeat Superior*, in that they are liable for the acts of their aforementioned employees, servants, agents, and/or volunteers acting within the course and scope of their duties, in this case, the unknown Officer(s) John Doe(s), all of whom failed to exercise ordinary care while in the course and scope of employment.

DATED at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this 17 day of February 2025.

HUPY AND ABRAHAM, S.C.
Attorneys for Sewayna E. Bombagi by JoAnn T.
Olson,

By: 

Todd R. Korb

State Bar Number: 1026950

Post Office Address

111 East Kilbourn Avenue

Suite 1100

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Phone Number: (414) 223-4800

Email: TKorb@hupy.com

COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf of the class of plaintiffs proposed below, by and through their attorneys, Zimmer & Rens LLC and Milberg Coleman Bryson Phillips Grossman, PLLC, hereby assert the following Complaint against the above-named Defendants, as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. The laws in most states have acknowledged for a long time that when a tax foreclosed property sells for more than the amount of the debt owed, the foreclosed property owner owns the surplus sale proceeds.

2. Wisconsin, on the other hand, is among a handful of states that for decades enforced state laws allowing itself and its political subdivisions (i.e., Wisconsin's 72 counties and the City of Milwaukee) to keep most, if not all, of the surplus proceeds generated by sales of tax-foreclosed properties.

3. Recognizing the illegality of these unconstitutional takings, in 2022, Wisconsin amended its statutes to acknowledge the rights of tax-foreclosed property owners to recover the surplus proceeds generated by tax foreclosure sales. However, that legislative change was only made on a forward-looking basis.

4. In 2023, in *Tyler v. Hennepin County*, 598 U.S. 631 (2023), the United States Supreme Court confirmed that proceeds from a government sale of tax-foreclosed property which exceed the amount of the tax debt belong to the foreclosed-owner, and that the foreclosed-owner is entitled to just compensation under the Fourth and Fifteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution where the government has retained the surplus proceeds.

5. Plaintiffs are individuals whose real properties were foreclosed upon by a Wisconsin governmental subdivision due to a tax lien, the sale of which property resulted in proceeds exceeding the amount owed in unpaid real property taxes, special assessments, special charges, special taxes, interest and penalties (collectively, "Tax Debt"), and the surplus proceeds were retained by the government.

6. In this lawsuit, Plaintiffs seek to remedy those unconstitutional takings on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated. Specifically, Plaintiffs seek to represent a class of individuals defined as follows:

All persons or entities who had an ownership interest in real property which was seized pursuant to Chapter 75 of the Wisconsin Statutes in effect from January 1, 1989 to April 2, 2022, to satisfy Tax Debt, which property was sold for more than the amount of the Tax Debt, and which surplus proceeds from the sale of said real property was retained by one or more Defendants (the "Class").¹

Excluded from the Class are Defendants, Defendants' board members, legal counsel, the judges and all other court personnel to whom this case is assigned, and their immediate families.

PARTIES

7. Plaintiffs, John and Darlene Elliott, named in their individual capacities and as proposed class representatives, are adult residents of Wisconsin who reside at 2812 Kunzer Beach Lane, Little Suamico, WI 54141.

8. Plaintiff, Steven Skarban, named in his individual capacity and as a proposed class representative, is an adult resident of Wisconsin who resides at 11408 Highway 32, Suring, WI 54174.

¹ Plaintiffs reserve the right to amend or modify the Class definition, or propose different or additional subclasses, if appropriate.

9. Plaintiff, Frank J. Homola Living Trust Dated December 18, 2009, named in its individual capacity and as a proposed class representative, is a trust that operates through its trustee, Frank J. Homola, an adult resident of Illinois who resides at 490 Nash Road, Crystal Lake, IL 60014.

10. Plaintiff, Carl Geib, named in his individual capacity and as a proposed class representative, is an adult resident of Wisconsin who resides at N5191 Bakertown Road, Helenville, WI 53137.

11. Plaintiff, Kismet Cobaj, named in her individual capacity and as a proposed class representative, is an adult resident of Wisconsin who resides at 113 3rd Street, Baraboo, WI 53913.

12. Plaintiff, Wesley (Wes) Tennyson, named in his individual capacity and as a proposed class representative, is an adult resident of Wisconsin who resides at W5860 Star School Road, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538.

13. Plaintiff, Duncan Shannon, named in his individual capacity and as a proposed class representative, is an adult resident of Minnesota who resides at 1678 Ridgewood Lane North, Saint Paul, MN 55113.

14. Defendant, State of Wisconsin, is a governmental entity with a principal place of business located at 2 East Main Street, Madison, WI 53703.

15. Defendant, Adams County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 401 Adams Street, Friendship, WI 53934.

16. Defendant, Ashland County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 201 Main Street West, Ashland, WI 54806.

17. Defendant, Barron County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 335 East Monroe Avenue, Barron, WI 54812.

18. Defendant, Bayfield County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 117 East 5th Street, Washburn, WI 54891.

19. Defendant, Brown County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 305 East Walnut Street, Green Bay, WI 54301.

20. Defendant, Buffalo County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 407 South 2nd Street, Alma, WI 54610.

21. Defendant, Burnett County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 7410 County Road K, Suite 105, Siren, WI 54872.

22. Defendant, Calumet County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 206 Court Street, Chilton, WI 53014.

23. Defendant, Chippewa County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 711 North Bridge Street, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729.

24. Defendant, Clark County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 517 Court Street, Neillsville, WI 54456.

25. Defendant, Columbia County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 112 East Edgewater Street, Portage, WI 53901.

26. Defendant, Crawford County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 220 North Beaumont Road, Prairie Du Chien, WI 53821.

27. Defendant, Dane County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Madison, WI 53703.

28. Defendant, Dodge County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI 53039.

29. Defendant, Door County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 421 Nebraska Street, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235.

30. Defendant, Douglas County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 1313 Belknap Street, Superior, WI 54880.

31. Defendant, Dunn County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 3001 US Highway 12 East, Menomonie, WI 54751.

32. Defendant, Eau Claire County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703.

33. Defendant, Florence County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 501 Lake Avenue, Florence, WI 54121.

34. Defendant, Fond Du Lac County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 160 South Macy Street, Fond Du Lac, WI 54935.

35. Defendant, Forest County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 200 East Madison Street, Crandon, WI 54520.

36. Defendant, Grant County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 111 South Jefferson Street, Lancaster, WI 53813.

37. Defendant, Green County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 1016 16th Avenue, Monroe, WI 53566.

38. Defendant, Green Lake County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 571 County Road A, Green Lake, WI 54941.

39. Defendant, Iowa County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 222 North Iowa Street, Dodgeville, WI 53533.

40. Defendant, Iron County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 300 Taconite Street, Hurley, WI 54534.

41. Defendant, Jackson County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 307 Main Street, Black River Falls, WI 54615.

42. Defendant, Jefferson County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 311 South Center Avenue, Jefferson, WI 53549.

43. Defendant, Juneau County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 220 East State Street, Mauston, WI 53948.

44. Defendant, Kenosha County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 1010 56th Street, Kenosha, WI 53140.

45. Defendant, Kewaunee County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 810 Lincoln Street, Kewaunee, WI 54216.

46. Defendant, La Crosse County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 212 6th Street North, La Crosse, WI 54601.

47. Defendant, Lafayette County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 626 Main Street, Darlington, WI 53530.

48. Defendant, Langlade County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 800 Clermont Street, Antigo, WI 54409.

49. Defendant, Lincoln County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 801 North Sales Street, Merrill, WI 54452.

50. Defendant, Manitowoc County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 1010 South 8th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220.

51. Defendant, Marathon County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 500 Forest Street, Wausau, WI 54403.

52. Defendant, Marinette County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 1926 Hall Avenue, Marinette, WI 54143.

53. Defendant, Marquette County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 77 West Park Street, Montello, WI 53949.

54. Defendant, Menominee County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at W3269 Courthouse Lane, Keshena, WI 54135.

55. Defendant, Milwaukee County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 901 North 9th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233.

56. Defendant, Monroe County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 124 North Court Street, Sparta, WI 54656.

57. Defendant, Oconto County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 301 Washington Street, Oconto, WI 54153.

58. Defendant, Oneida County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 1 South Oneida Avenue, Rhineland, WI 54501.

59. Defendant, Outagamie County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 320 South Walnut Street, Appleton, WI 54911.

60. Defendant, Ozaukee County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 121 West Main Street, Port Washington, WI 53074.

61. Defendant, Pepin County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 740 7th Avenue West, Durand, WI 54736.

62. Defendant, Pierce County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 414 West Main Street, Ellsworth, WI 54011.

63. Defendant, Polk County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 100 Polk County Plaza, Balsam Lake, WI 54810.

64. Defendant, Portage County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 1516 Church Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481.

65. Defendant, Price County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 126 Cherry Street, Phillips, WI 54555.

66. Defendant, Racine County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 730 Wisconsin Avenue, Racine, WI 53403.

67. Defendant, Richland County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 181 West Seminary Street, Richland Center, WI 53581.

68. Defendant, Rock County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 51 South Main Street, Janesville, WI 53545.

69. Defendant, Rusk County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 311 Miner Avenue East, Ladysmith, WI 54848.

70. Defendant, Sauk County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 505 Broadway Street, Baraboo, WI 53913.

71. Defendant, Sawyer County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 10610 Main Street, Hayward, WI 54843.

72. Defendant, Shawano County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 311 North Main Street, Shawano, WI 54166.

73. Defendant, Sheboygan County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 508 New York Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

74. Defendant, St. Croix County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 1101 Carmichael Road, Hudson, WI 54016.

75. Defendant, Taylor County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 224 South 2nd Street, Medford, WI 54451.

76. Defendant, Trempealeau County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 18600 Hobson Street, Whitehall, WI 54773.

77. Defendant, Vernon County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 400 Courthouse Square, Viroqua, WI 54665.

78. Defendant, Vilas County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 330 Court Street, Eagle River, WI 54521.

79. Defendant, Walworth County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 100 West Walworth Street, Elkhorn, WI 53121.

80. Defendant, Washburn County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 304 2nd Street, Shell Lake, WI 54871.

81. Defendant, Washington County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 432 East Washington Street, West Bend, WI 53095.

82. Defendant, Waukesha County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 515 West Moreland Boulevard, Waukesha, WI 53188.

83. Defendant, Waupaca County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 811 Harding Street, Waupaca, WI 54981.

84. Defendant, Waushara County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 380 South Townline Road, Wautoma, WI 54982.

85. Defendant, Winnebago County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 112 Otter Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

86. Defendant, Wood County, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 400 Market Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494.

87. Defendant, City of Milwaukee, is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with a principal place of business located at 200 East Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

JURISDICTION, VENUE, AND IMMUNITY

88. This Court has general subject matter jurisdiction over this matter under Wis. Stat. § 801.04 (2023-24)².

89. This Court has personal jurisdiction over each of the Defendants.

90. Venue in Waukesha County is appropriate under Wis. Stat. § 801.50.

91. Defendants lack sovereign immunity from this action, because the takings clause of the Wisconsin Constitution is a self-executing waiver of sovereign immunity.

BACKGROUND FACTS

John and Darlene Elliott

92. John and Darlene Elliott owned parcel 034-42340373B1B, located at Rocky Ledge Road and Kunzer Beach Lane, in the Town of Pensaukee, Oconto County, Wisconsin, and more particularly described as follows:

Lot Three (3), Volume 16 Certified Survey Maps, Page 4 as Map No. 2654, as Document No. 454065; said map being located in Part of Government Lot Three (3), Section Thirty-four (34), Township Twenty-seven (27) North, Range Twenty-one (21) East, in the Town

² All citations to Wis. Stat. ch. 80 refer to the 2023-24 statutes.

of Pensaukee, Oconto County, Wisconsin, excepting therefrom any part thereof used for highway and/or road purposes.

93. While owning this vacant, undeveloped property, Mr. Elliott was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. The sclerosis required the Elliots to spend approximately \$8,000 per month on his medications and became otherwise consumed with his treatments.

94. As a result, the Elliots lost track of the annual tax payments related to their property.

95. On September 4, 2019, Oconto County acquired the Elliots' property through a tax deed³ to satisfy an outstanding Tax Debt of \$4,762.54.

96. On March 22, 2021, Oconto County sold the property at auction for \$31,000.

97. After payment of the Tax Debt, Oconto County profited \$25,837.46 from the sale of the Elliots' property, after deducting the costs of sale and other amounts to be deducted from the sale proceeds under Wis. Stat. § 75.36(3).⁴

98. In fact, in response to an open records request directed to Oconto County on this subject, Oconto County produced a spreadsheet in which Oconto County calculated the exact amounts of each deduction and included the specific amount of \$25,837.46 under a column labeled "PROFIT ON SALE."

99. Thus, while the Elliots faced substantial financial, emotional, and physical hardship, Defendant Oconto County pocketed a \$25,837.46 windfall from the Elliots.

³ In this Complaint, "tax deed" has the meaning stated in Wis. Stat. 75.001(2) (1989-90) to (2021-22): "Tax deed" means a tax deed executed under s. 75.14, a deed executed under s. 75.19, or a judgment issued under s. 75.521."

⁴ Unless otherwise noted, all citations to Wis. Stat. ch. 75 refer to the statutes in effect from January 1, 1989, to April 2, 2022.

100. Some amount of the surplus proceeds that Oconto County took from the Elliotts were remitted to the State of Wisconsin or commingled with other funds that Oconto County paid to the State of Wisconsin to satisfy Oconto County's obligation to pay the "state tax chargeable against each county" to the State of Wisconsin. *See Wis. Stat. § 70.60(1) (1989-1990) to (2021-2022).*⁵

Steven Skarban

101. Plaintiff Steven Skarban owned both parcels 026090900111 and 026090900414 located at Hickory Cemetery Road and 10936 County Road M, in the Town of Maple Valley, located in Oconto County, Wisconsin, and more particularly described as follows:

Parcel 026090900111:

The Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NE¼ of NE¼), Section Nine (9), Township Twenty-nine (29) North, Range Eighteen (18) East, in the Town of Maple Valley, Oconto County, Wisconsin, EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING PARCEL more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Northeast corner of said Section 9; thence South 01°05'23" West, along the east line of said Section 9, a distance of 587.61 feet to a 1" iron pipe; Thence North 87°06'28" West, a distance of 654.00 feet to a 1" iron pipe; Thence North 00°27'53" East, a distance of 574.89 feet to the North line of said Section 9; Thence South 88°13'53" East, along said North line, a distance of 660.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING... EXCEPTING the northerly 33 feet thereof lying within the right of way of Hickory Cemetery Road.

Parcel 026090900414:

PARCEL NUMBER: ***414 The Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (SE1/4 of NE1/4), Section Nine (9), Township Twenty-nine (29) North, Range Eighteen (18) East, in the Town of Maple Valley, Oconto County, Wisconsin, EXCEPT Volume 441, Page 647, for road purposes.

102. On September 4, 2019, Oconto County acquired both parcels through a tax deed to satisfy a total outstanding Tax Debt of \$2,422.79.

⁵ All citations to Wis. Stat. ch. 70 refer to the statutes in effect from January 1, 1989, to April 1, 2022.

103. Subsequently, Oconto County sold both parcels on May 15, 2020, for a combined total sale price of \$420,500.00.

104. After payment of the Tax Debt, Oconto County profited \$417,277.21 from the sale of Mr. Skarban's properties, after deducting the costs of sale and other amounts to be deducted from the sale proceeds under Wis. Stat. § 75.36(3).

105. In fact, in response to an open records request directed to Oconto County on this subject, Oconto County produced a spreadsheet in which Oconto County calculated the exact amounts of each deduction and included the specific amounts of \$211,849.28 and \$205,427.93 under a column labeled "PROFIT ON SALE."

106. Some amount of the surplus proceeds that Oconto County took from the Mr. Skarban were remitted to the State of Wisconsin or commingled with other funds that Oconto County paid to the State of Wisconsin to satisfy Oconto County's obligation to pay the "state tax chargeable against each county" to the State of Wisconsin. *See* Wis. Stat. § 70.60(1).

Frank J. Homola Trust Dated December 18, 2009

107. Plaintiff Frank J. Homola Trust Dated December 18, 2009 (the "Homola Trust") owned parcel 010-2284-05 located at 1046 Peach Lane, in the Town of Lac Du Flambeau, in Vilas County, Wisconsin, and more particularly described as follows:

Lot 2 of Vilas County Certified Survey Map No. 4488 recorded in Volume 15CS, page 398, Government Lot 5, Section 35, Township 40 North, Range 5 East, Lac du Flambeau Township, Vilas County Wisconsin. Together with a non-exclusive easement for ingress and egress to S. Gunlock Lake Road over the existing road located approximately 400 feet from the lake.

108. On December 23, 2020, Vilas County acquired the Homola Trust's parcel through a tax deed due to an outstanding Tax Debt of approximately \$16,000.00.

109. Subsequently, Vilas County sold the Homola Trust's parcel on July 2, 2021, for a sale price of \$166,000.00.

110. After payment of the Tax Debt, Vilas County profited approximately \$150,000.00 from the sale of the Homola Trust's property, less the costs of sale and other amounts to be deducted from the sale proceeds under Wis. Stat. § 75.36(3).

111. Some amount of the surplus proceeds that Vilas County took from the Homola Trust were remitted to the State of Wisconsin or commingled with other funds that Vilas County paid to the State of Wisconsin to satisfy Vilas County's obligation to pay the "state tax chargeable against each county" to the State of Wisconsin. *See* Wis. Stat. § 70.60(1).

Carl Geib

112. Plaintiff Carl Geib owned a fifty percent interest, as a tenant in common with Patricia Wilke, in parcel PFS2 00008 located at W2405 New Deal Ave, in the Town of East Troy, in Walworth County, Wisconsin, and more particularly described as follows:

Lot 10, Freuck's 2nd Addition, according to the recorded plat thereof. Said land being in the Town of East Troy, Walworth County, Wisconsin.

113. On June 10, 2021, Walworth County acquired Mr. Geib and Ms. Wilke's parcel through a tax deed due to an outstanding Tax Debt of approximately \$15,000.

114. Subsequently, Walworth County sold Mr. Geib and Ms. Wilke's parcel on October 25, 2021, for a sale price of \$255,000.00.

115. After payment of the Tax Debt, Walworth County profited approximately \$240,000.00 from the sale of Mr. Geib and Ms. Wilke's property, less the costs of sale and other amounts to be deducted from the sale proceeds under Wis. Stat. § 75.36(3).⁶

⁶ Patricia Wilke is not a named plaintiff in this Complaint, but if the Class is certified, she will be a member of the Class with a claim to the other fifty percent of the surplus proceeds.

116. Some amount of the surplus proceeds that Walworth County took from Mr. Geib were remitted to the State of Wisconsin or commingled with other funds that Vilas County paid to the State of Wisconsin to satisfy Vilas County's obligation to pay the "state tax chargeable against each county" to the State of Wisconsin. *See Wis. Stat. § 70.60(1).*

Kismet Cobaj

117. Plaintiff Kismet Cobaj owned a fifty percent interest, as a tenant in common with Alime Cobaj, in parcel 010-0553-00000 located at S3173 Evergreen Road, in the Town of Excelsior, located in Sauk County, Wisconsin, and more particularly described as follows:

Lot 2, Certified Survey Map No. 2769, recorded in Volume 12 of Certified Survey Maps, Page 2769, as Document No. 586272 in the Town of Excelsior, County of Sauk, State of Wisconsin. AND A parcel of land described as being part of Lot 1 of Sauk County Certified Survey Map No. 2769; located in the Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 Section 10, Township 12 North, Range 5 East, Town of Excelsior, Sauk County, Wisconsin, bounded by a line described as follows: Commencing at the West 1/4 corner of Section 10; thence South 88 degrees 28' 13" East, 1326.42 feet thence South 01 degrees 19' 40" West, 774.32 feet; thence South 85 degrees 00' 57" East, 101.50 feet along the North line of CSM No. 2769; thence South 00 degrees 10' 13" East, 231.78 feet along the East line of said survey; thence North 86 degrees 20' 3 8" West, 140.48 feet to the Northeast corner of Lot 1 of CSM No. 2769, said point being the point of beginning; thence North 85 degrees 13' 26" West, 485.97 feet along the North line of Lot 1, CSM 2769; thence South 79 degrees 49' 10" East, 487.38 feet to a point on the East line of Lot 1, CSM 2769; thence North 05 degrees 42' 58" East, 45.91 feet along said East line to the point of beginning.

118. On December 20, 2019, Sauk County acquired Ms. Cobaj and Alime Cobaj's parcel through a tax deed due to an outstanding Tax Debt of approximately \$7,735.87.

119. Subsequently, Sauk County sold Ms. Cobaj and Alime Cobaj's parcel on October 5, 2020, for a sale price of \$75,890.00.

120. After payment of the Tax Debt, Sauk County profited approximately \$68,154.13 from the sale of Ms. Cobaj and Alime Cobaj's property, less the costs of sale and other amounts to be deducted from the sale proceeds under Wis. Stat. § 75.36(3).⁷

121. Some amount of the surplus proceeds that Sauk County took from Ms. Cobaj were remitted to the State of Wisconsin or commingled with other funds that Sauk County paid to the State of Wisconsin to satisfy Sauk County's obligation to pay the "state tax chargeable against each county" to the State of Wisconsin. *See* Wis. Stat. § 70.60(1).

Wesley (Wes) Tennyson

122. Plaintiff Wesley (Wes) Tennyson owned parcel 020-0714-0432-001 located at W6394 County Road A, in the Town of Milford, located in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, and more particularly described as follows:

A strip of land 16 feet wide across the Southwesterly end of Lot 2, Block 5, according to the recorded plat of N.S. Greene's Addition to the Village of Milford, Town of Milford, Jefferson County, Wisconsin. ALSO a parcel of land, situated in and being a part of Section 4, Township 7 North, Range 14 East, bounded by a line commencing at the intersection of the center line of Milford-Watertown Highway with the East Bank of Crawfish River; thence Easterly along the center of said Highway 3 rods; thence Northwesterly in a straight line 13 1/3 rods to a point from which a line drawn parallel to the center line of said highway is 3 rods distant from the East Bank of said River; thence Westerly parallel to the centerline of said highway, 3 rods to the East bank of said River; thence Southeasterly along the East bank of said River, to the point of commencement; said parcel of land being also known and designated on the recorded plat of N.S. Greene's Addition to the Village of Milford as Lot 1, Block 5. TOGETHER WITH a strip of land 1/3 rod in width contiguous to and along the whole Northerly line of said Lot 1. EXCEPT land conveyed to Jefferson County for highway purposes on April 9, 1945 as recorded in the office of the Register of Deed for Jefferson County, Wisconsin, Volume 230 of Deeds on Page 554 as Document No. 396028.

⁷ Alime Cobaj is not a named plaintiff in this Complaint, but if the Class is certified, she will be a member of the Class with a claim to the other fifty percent of the surplus proceeds.

123. On September 1, 2020, Jefferson County acquired Mr. Tennyson's parcel through a tax deed due to an outstanding Tax Debt of approximately \$5,000.00.

124. Subsequently, Jefferson County sold Mr. Tennyson's parcel on February 25, 2021, for a sale price of \$69,600.00.

125. After payment of the Tax Debt, Jefferson County profited approximately \$64,600.00 from the sale of Mr. Tennyson's property, less the costs of sale and other amounts to be deducted from the sale proceeds under Wis. Stat. § 75.36(3).

126. Some amount of the surplus proceeds that Jefferson County took from Mr. Tennyson were remitted to the State of Wisconsin or commingled with other funds that Jefferson County paid to the State of Wisconsin to satisfy Jefferson County's obligation to pay the "state tax chargeable against each county" to the State of Wisconsin. *See* Wis. Stat. § 70.60(1).

Duncan Shannon

127. Plaintiff Duncan Shannon owned parcel 020-0714-0432-001 located at Woodland Green Lane, in the Town of Stone Lake, located in Washburn County, Wisconsin, and more particularly described as follows:

Part of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (NW¼ of the SE¼), Section Thirty-three (S33), Township Thirty-nine North (T39N), Range 10 West (R10W) of the Town of Stone Lake, Washburn County, Wisconsin described as Lot Nine (9) on Volume Sixteen (16) of Certified Survey Maps, Page 78 as Survey number 3414 and Document number 317115. Together with and subject to a perpetual 66 foot roadway and utility easement from the property described above to State Highway 70 as described on the Declaration of Easement for Private Road and Utilities dated April 21, 2006 and recorded May 8, 2006 as Document number 317910. Subject to all Easements, Rights of Way and Restrictions of Record. Exempt from transfer fee per Sec. 77.25(4), Wis. Stats.

128. On April 9, 2021, Washburn County acquired Mr. Shannon's parcel through a tax deed due to an outstanding Tax Debt of approximately \$3,000.00.

129. Subsequently, Washburn County sold Mr. Shannon's parcel on July 23, 2021, for a sale price of \$23,000.00.

130. After payment of the Tax Debt, Washburn County profited approximately \$20,000.00 from the sale of Mr. Shannon's property, less the costs of sale and other amounts to be deducted from the sale proceeds under Wis. Stat. § 75.36(3).

131. Some amount of the surplus proceeds that Washburn County took from Mr. Shannon were remitted to the State of Wisconsin or commingled with other funds that Washburn County paid to the State of Wisconsin to satisfy Washburn County's obligation to pay the "state tax chargeable against each county" to the State of Wisconsin. *See* Wis. Stat. § 70.60(1).

Wisconsin's Former Unconstitutional Statutory Scheme

132. Under Wisconsin's pre-2022 statutory scheme, Defendants were not allowed to distribute the surplus proceeds back to the respective property owners. *See* Wis. Stat. § 75.36. The sole exception was that owners of homestead properties, under certain circumstances, could collect approximately 50% of the surplus proceeds. *See* Wis. Stat. § 75.36(2m).

133. The County Defendants⁸ paid some amounts of the surplus sale proceeds they recovered from tax foreclosure sales to the State of Wisconsin or commingled some amounts of the surplus funds with other funds that the County Defendants paid to the State of Wisconsin to satisfy the County Defendants' tax obligations to the State of Wisconsin.

134. On April 2, 2022, the Wisconsin legislature's enactment of 2021 Wisconsin Act 216 became effective, which amended Wis. Stat. § 75.36 to require the County Defendants to

⁸ In this Complaint, the phrase "County Defendants" includes the City of Milwaukee in addition to all 72 Wisconsin counties. *See* Wis. Stat. § 75.06 ("For purposes of this chapter, 'county' includes a city authorized to proceed under s. 74.87.").

distribute surplus sale proceeds generated from future tax foreclosure sales back to the respective taxpayers from whom the properties were foreclosed upon.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

135. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves and as a class action under Wis. Stat. § 803.08, seeking relief on behalf of the following class:

All persons or entities who had an ownership interest in real property which was seized pursuant to Chapter 75 of the Wisconsin Statutes in effect from January 1, 1989 to April 2, 2022, to satisfy Tax Debt, which property was sold for more than the amount of the Tax Debt, and which surplus proceeds from the sale of said real property was retained by one or more Defendants (the “Class”).⁹

Excluded from the Class are Defendants, Defendants’ board members, legal counsel, the judges and all other court personnel to whom this case is assigned, and their immediate families.

136. The Class members are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Specifically, there are thousands of persons and entities whose properties were foreclosed upon by Defendants and whose surplus proceeds were retained by Defendants.

137. A common question of fact exists which impacts all Class members: whether Defendants enforced Wis. Stat. ch. 75 as written from January 1, 1989, until April 2, 2022.

138. Common questions of law also exist which relate to the claims of all Class members, including the following:

- A. Whether Defendants’ sales of properties without remitting the surplus proceeds resulting from such sale back to the property owners constitute unconstitutional takings of private property;
- B. Whether Defendants must return the surplus proceeds back to Class members;

⁹ Plaintiffs reserve the right to amend or modify the Class definition, or propose different or additional sub-classes, if appropriate.

- C. Whether Defendants must pay “just compensation” to Class members;
- D. Whether Defendants’ takings of Class members’ properties violated Article I, Section 13 of the Wisconsin Constitution, or, alternatively, violated the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution;
- E. Whether Defendants’ actions violated the “excessive fines” clause of Article I, Section 6 of the Wisconsin Constitution, or, alternatively, violated the Eight and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution;
- F. Whether injunctive relief should be awarded to Class members, requiring Defendants to return the surplus proceeds;
- G. Whether money damages should be awarded to Class members; and,
- H. Whether interest on the surplus proceeds should be awarded to Class members.

139. The common questions of law and fact predominate over any questions of law or fact unique to any individual member of the Class.

140. Plaintiffs’ claims are typical of the Class members’ claims—in each, one of the County Defendants foreclosed upon the subject real property, sold that property, and generated surplus proceeds which it retained and has not returned, and which it has commingled with funds paid to the State of Wisconsin.

141. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class.

142. Plaintiffs’ claims are exemplary of the claims held by absent Class members.

143. Plaintiffs’ claims arise out of the same common course of conduct by Defendants giving rise to the claims of the absent Class members.

144. A class action is superior to other available methods for fairly and efficiently adjudicating this controversy.

145. Class members' interests in individually controlling the prosecution or defense of separate actions are minimal or non-existent.

146. The expense and burden of individual litigation would make it impracticable if not impossible for Class members to individually address the wrongs done to them.

147. Even if every Class member could afford individual litigation, the court system could not. Class treatment, on the other hand, will permit the adjudication of claims of Class members who could not individually afford to litigate their claims against Defendants and will permit a large number of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum simultaneously, efficiently, and without the duplication of effort and expense that individual actions would entail.

148. Prosecution of separate actions by individual Class members would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual Class members that would establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendants.

149. Prosecution of separate actions by individual Class members would create a risk of adjudications with respect to individual Class members that, as a practical matter, would be dispositive of the interests of other Class members not parties to the individual adjudications or would substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests.

150. Defendants acted or refused to act on grounds that apply generally to the Class, so that final injunctive relief is appropriate respecting the Class as a whole.

151. It is desirable to concentrate the litigation of these claims in a single forum.

152. No difficulties are likely to overcome the manageability of this class action.

153. No superior alternative exists for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.

154. For the foregoing reasons, certification of the Class is appropriate pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 803.08(2)(a) because separate actions by individual Class members, or separate actions against individual Defendants, would create a risk of inconsistent rulings that would impose incompatible standards of conduct on Defendants and would, as a practical matter, impair or impede the ability of other Class members to pursue their claims.

155. Certification is also appropriate pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 803.08(2)(b) because Defendants acted uniformly with respect to all Class members generally, such that “final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief is appropriate respecting the class as a whole.”

156. The Class is also certifiable pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 803.08(2)(c) given that, as set forth above, the questions of law or fact common to Class members predominate over any individualized questions, and a single action is superior to separate resolutions for each Class member and Defendant.

157. Additionally, particular issues under Wis. Stat. § 803.08(6) are appropriate for certification because such claims present only particular, common issues, the resolution of which would advance the disposition of this matter and the parties’ interests therein.

158. Such particular issues include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Whether enforcement of Wis. Stat. ch. 75 by Defendants resulted in Defendants acquiring, under tax deeds, interests in real property.
- B. Whether surplus sale proceeds remained from the sales of any such real properties after deducting from the sale proceeds the amounts required to be deducted under Wis. Stat. § 75.36(a)-(b).

- C. Whether Defendants kept any such surplus sale proceeds.
- D. Whether the retention of any such surplus sale proceeds by Defendants constituted an unconstitutional taking.
- E. Whether and to what extent the County Defendants remitted the surplus proceeds to the State of Wisconsin.
- F. Whether and to what extent the State of Wisconsin retained the surplus proceeds.

JURIDICAL LINK ALLEGATIONS

159. While Plaintiffs were specifically damaged by Defendants Oconto County, Vilas County, Walworth County, Sauk County, Jefferson County, and Washburn County, Plaintiffs seek to bring claims on behalf of the Class against all similarly situated Defendants pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 803.08 and the juridical link doctrine.

160. The Wisconsin statutes expressly allow for classes of defendants: “One or more members of a class may sue *or be sued* as representative parties on behalf of all members. . . .” Wis. Stat. § 803.08(1) (emphasis added).

161. In addition, the juridical link doctrine allows class representative plaintiffs who have a claim against a particular defendant to sue a related class of defendants, despite the named class representative plaintiffs’ lack of direct contact with the joined class defendants. *See, e.g., Payton v. County of Kane*, 308 F.3d 673, 679–83 (7th Cir. 2002) (“given that the . . . fee is imposed pursuant to a state statute, and that count[ies] are for this purpose an arm of the state . . . it is reasonable for the putative plaintiff class to try to hold all counties accountable within one suit.”).

162. Because all Defendants took part in a similar scheme that was mandated by a uniform state rule, it is appropriate to join as Defendants even parties with whom the named Plaintiffs did not have direct contact.

163. Plaintiffs and the Class seek to hold all Defendants named herein (i.e., all of Wisconsin's 72 counties, the City of Milwaukee, and the State of Wisconsin) accountable for the systematic and repeated unconstitutional takings of their property that was enabled under Wis. Stat. § 75.36.

164. Defendants all committed the wrongful conduct described in this Complaint pursuant to a deliberate state statutory scheme common among all Defendants and by the Defendants utilizing the same means as each other with a common course of conduct.

165. Application of the juridical link doctrine is appropriate in this case and should be applied by the Court to allow the Class members to have their claims against Defendants remedied.

COUNT I
VIOLATION OF TAKINGS CLAUSE OF WISCONSIN CONSTITUTION

166. Plaintiffs incorporate all allegations above as if fully restated herein.

167. The Wisconsin state legislature implemented a statutory scheme to cause its political subdivisions, namely, the County Defendants, to systematically and repeatedly take property unconstitutionally without just compensation, as described above.

168. The Wisconsin judiciary approved of, and gave color of law to, the State of Wisconsin's unconstitutional scheme.

169. The County Defendants administered and carried out the unconstitutional takings scheme created by the State of Wisconsin's legislature and upheld by the State of Wisconsin's judiciary.

170. While Wis. Stat. ch. 75 has since been amended to prevent the unconstitutional practice of confiscating surplus proceeds on or after April 2, 2022, the State of Wisconsin has not provided any mechanism through which Plaintiffs and the Class members may recover just compensation for the surplus funds that Defendants took prior to April 2, 2022. *See Wis. Stat. 75.36 (2023-24)*.

171. Article I, Section 13 of the Wisconsin Constitution states as follows: “The property of no person shall be taken for public use without just compensation therefor.”

172. Article I, Section 13 is self-executing and does not need any express statutory authority for its enforcement.

173. Article I, Section 13 is a constitutional waiver of sovereign immunity that does not require any legislative direction under Article 4, Section 27 of the Wisconsin Constitution.

174. Under the Wisconsin Constitution, a property owner whose property is acquired by the government through tax foreclosure has a property interest in the surplus proceeds generated from the sale of the property that is superior to Defendants’ interest in the surplus proceeds.

175. The only interest Defendants acquired in the surplus proceeds is the illegitimate possessory interest that Defendants asserted when they took the surplus proceeds.

176. Plaintiffs and the Class members retained, and continue to hold, all the legitimate rights, title and interest in and to their respective surplus proceeds.

177. Defendants’ holding of Plaintiffs’ and the Class members’ surplus proceeds effectively amounts to a trespass on Plaintiffs’ and the Class members’ property.

178. Defendants’ holding of Plaintiffs’ and the Class members’ surplus proceeds effectively amounts to a conversion of Plaintiffs’ and the Class members’ property.

179. Defendants took Plaintiffs' and the Class members' property without due process of law every time they took surplus proceeds.

180. Defendants' taking of the surplus proceeds constitutes a direct appropriation of property, not a regulatory taking.

181. Defendants did not appropriate Plaintiffs' or the Class members' surplus proceeds under any legitimate use of eminent domain powers.

182. Defendants did not appropriate Plaintiffs' or the Class members' surplus proceeds under any legitimate use of taxation powers.

183. Defendants directly appropriated Plaintiffs' and the Class members' surplus proceeds under the State of Wisconsin's general police powers.

184. Defendants' use of the State of Wisconsin's general police powers to confiscate Plaintiffs' and the Class members' surplus proceeds was unconstitutional, void, and of no effect.

185. Defendants never acquired any legitimate rights, title or interest in or to Plaintiffs' and the Class members' surplus proceeds.

186. Defendants have no public use to support or justify taking or keeping Plaintiffs' and the Class members' surplus proceeds.

187. Plaintiffs and the Class members have not had an adequate legal remedy to protect their property interests from the unconstitutional and unlawful conduct described herein.

188. Plaintiffs and the Class members have been injured and damaged by the taking of their property and are entitled to just compensation and other relief as a result.

189. Defendants took more than what was owed to them, and thus, Defendants' actions are a classic taking in which the government directly appropriates private property for its own use.

190. Plaintiffs and the Class members have been injured and damaged by the failure to pay just compensation for the loss of their property and are entitled to compensation and other relief as a result.

191. Defendants must return the surplus proceeds to Plaintiffs and the Class members.

192. Defendants must pay Plaintiffs and the Class members just compensation.

193. By taking the Plaintiffs' and Class members' surplus proceeds and refusing to return them, Defendants are continually violating Article I, Section 13 of the Wisconsin Constitution every day that they fail to return the surplus funds to the Plaintiffs and the Class members.

194. Plaintiffs and the Class members are entitled to injunctive relief under Article I, Section 13 of the Wisconsin Constitution ordering Defendants to return the surplus proceeds back to Plaintiffs and the Class members.

195. Defendants' violations of Article I, Section 13 of the Wisconsin Constitution have caused Plaintiffs and the Class members to be injured and damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

196. Plaintiffs and the Class members are entitled to an award of interest upon the surplus proceeds to compensate them for the time value of money for the misappropriation of their surplus proceeds.

197. Defendants must pay interest at such rates and according to such inflation adjustments as is to be determined at trial.

COUNT II
VIOLATION OF THE EXCESSIVE FINES CLAUSE
OF THE WISCONSIN CONSTITUTION
(Alternative to Count I)

198. Plaintiffs incorporate all allegations above as if fully restated herein.

199. This claim is pled in the alternative to Count I, above.

200. Article I, Section 6 of the Wisconsin Constitution, provides as follows: “Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel or unusual punishments inflicted.”

201. Article I, Section 6 of the Wisconsin Constitution applies to any statutory scheme that serves in part to punish.

202. By imposing and retaining an excessive fine in the form of effectively a forfeiture of Plaintiffs’ and the Class members’ surplus proceeds, Defendants have violated Plaintiffs’ and the Class members’ rights under Article I, Section 6 of the Wisconsin Constitution.

203. Defendants’ confiscation of the surplus proceeds from sales of Plaintiffs’ and the Class members’ properties because of non-payment of Tax Debt constitute excessive fines under Article I, Section 6 of the Wisconsin Constitution.

204. Defendants’ retention of Plaintiffs’ and the Class members’ surplus proceeds, which is exclusive of the Tax Debt, is punitive, not remedial.

205. Defendants engaged in assessing and collecting prohibited excessive fines, as described herein.

206. Plaintiffs and the Class members lack an adequate legal remedy to protect their property interests from the unconstitutional and unlawful conduct described herein.

207. Plaintiffs and the Class members have been injured and damaged by the unlawful excessive fines under the Wisconsin Constitution and are entitled to awards of actual damages and interest in an amount to be determined at trial.

COUNT III
VIOLATION OF THE TAKINGS CLAUSE
OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION
(Alternative to Counts I and II)

208. Plaintiffs incorporate all allegations above as if fully restated herein.

209. This claim is pled in the alternative to Counts I and II, above.

210. It is only necessary to address this claim if the State of Wisconsin refuses to allow Plaintiffs and the Class members recourse for Defendants' unconstitutional takings or excessive fines under the Wisconsin Constitution.

211. The Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution provides, in pertinent part, "nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation."

212. The Fourteenth Amendment prohibits the State of Wisconsin (and other states) from violating the Fifth Amendment.

213. This claim is a direct cause of action under the United States Constitution.

214. Plaintiffs and the Class members are entitled to the return of their surplus proceeds under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.

215. Plaintiffs and the Class members are entitled to just compensation for the taking of their surplus proceeds under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.

216. Defendants' violations of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution have caused Plaintiffs and the Class members to incur damages in an amount to be determined at trial.

217. Plaintiffs and the Class members are entitled to awards of damages and interest under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.

COUNT IV
VIOLATION OF THE EXCESSIVE FINES CLAUSE
OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION
(Alternative to Counts I, II, and III)

218. Plaintiffs incorporate all allegations above as if fully restated herein.

219. This claim is pled in the alternative to Counts I, II, and III, above.

220. It is only necessary to address this claim if the State of Wisconsin refuses to allow Plaintiffs and the Class members recourse for Defendants' unconstitutional takings or excessive fines under the Wisconsin Constitution.

221. The Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution prohibits the government from imposing excessive fines.

222. The Fourteenth Amendment makes the Eighth Amendment applicable to the states.

223. The Excessive Fines Clause applies to any statutory scheme that serves in part to punish.

224. By imposing and retaining an excessive fine in the form of effectively a forfeiture of Plaintiffs' and the Class members' surplus proceeds, Defendants violated Plaintiffs' and the Class members' Eighth Amendment rights.

225. Confiscating the entire value of Plaintiffs' and the Class members' properties including the excess or surplus equity in those properties because of nonpayment of small amounts of Tax Debt is an excessive fine under the Eight Amendment to the United States Constitution.

226. Defendants' retention of Plaintiffs' and the Class members' surplus proceeds, which is exclusive of the Tax Debt, is punitive, not remedial.

227. Defendants engaged in assessing and collecting prohibited excessive fines, as described herein.

228. Plaintiffs and the Class members lack an adequate legal remedy to protect their property interests from the unconstitutional and unlawful conduct described herein.

229. Plaintiffs and the Class members have been injured and damaged by unlawful excessive fines under the United States Constitution and are entitled to relief as a result in an amount to be determined at trial, including an award of interest.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs seek the following relief from the Court:

- A. The Court determine this action may be maintained as a class action, with Plaintiffs being designated as representatives of such Class, and Plaintiffs' undersigned counsel as Class Counsel;
- B. The Court find and declare that Defendants' retention of surplus proceeds from Plaintiffs and Class members violates the Wisconsin Constitution (or alternatively, the United States Constitution);
- C. The Court order Defendants to return to Plaintiffs and Class members the surplus proceeds generated from the tax-foreclosure sales of their properties;
- D. The Court award Plaintiffs and Class members their actual damages, including awards of just compensation and interest, along with inflation adjustments, in an amount to be determined at trial;
- E. The Court award Plaintiffs and Class members relief in the form of equitable restitution in such manner as to restore Defendants' unlawful gains to Plaintiffs and Class members, or to place Plaintiffs and members of the Class in the financial position they would have been in had there been no takings or other unlawful conduct;
- F. The Court award Plaintiffs and Class members their costs and disbursements of this suit, including reasonable attorneys' fees, to the greatest extent possible under the law; and,
- G. The Court grant Plaintiffs and Class members such other and further relief as the nature of this case may require or as may be deemed just and proper by the Court.

Dated this February 17, 2025.

ZIMMER & RENS LLC

Electronically signed by Paul W. Zimmer

Paul W. Zimmer

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** Pro hac vice application forthcoming*

Counsel for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Class of Plaintiffs

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: BRANCH 1

For the period of: FEBRUARY 2025

For the range of vouchers: 03240071 - 03240071 03250003 - 03250005

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
03240071	OFFICE ENTERPRISES INC	OFFICE SOFA	02/03/2025	\$5,638.63	P
03250003	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	OFFICE SUPPLIES	01/28/2025	\$128.34	P
03250004	ZAMOW DENISE	TRANSCRIPT 22CF9	02/07/2025	\$9.50	
03250005	ACADEMIC CHOIR APPAREL	JUDGE JERABEK'S JUDICIAL ROBE	02/20/2025	\$559.50	
Grand Total:				\$6,335.97	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: BRANCH 2

For the period of: FEBRUARY 2025

For the range of vouchers: 04250002 - 04250007

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
04250002	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	OFFICE CHAIR MAT	01/23/2025	\$39.85	P
04250003	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	CREDIT MEMO	01/30/2025	(\$39.85)	P
04250004	MENDEZ JOHN	JAN INTERPRETER BR 1, 2, 3 & 4	02/13/2025	\$510.00	
04250005	SWITS LTD	INTERPRETER FEES 24CM253 , 533	02/06/2025	\$152.00	
04250006	ZAMOW DENISE	TRANSCRIPT 23CF503	02/21/2025	\$40.00	
04250007	ZAMOW DENISE	TRANSCRIPT 22CF319	02/21/2025	\$18.50	
Grand Total:				\$720.50	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: BRANCH 3

For the period of: FEBRUARY 2025

For the range of vouchers: 05250002 - 05250004

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
05250002	CLARK KAYLA	REIMB FOR 2026 COURT CALENDAR	01/28/2025	\$162.42	P
05250003	SWITS LTD	INTERPRETER FEES BR 2 & 3	02/06/2025	\$380.00	
05250004	STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN	JUDICIAL BENCHBOOK UPDATES	02/19/2025	\$181.10	
Grand Total:				\$723.52	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: BRANCH 4

For the period of: FEBRUARY 2025

For the range of vouchers: 34250002 - 34250004

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
34250002	DELUXE	2026 COURT CALENDAR	01/28/2025	\$162.42	P
34250003	LIVERNASH ALICIA	TRANSCRIPT 24CF180	02/17/2025	\$32.00	
34250004	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES	02/20/2025	\$126.51	
Grand Total:				\$320.93	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: CHILD SUPPORT AGENCY

For the period of: FEBUARY 2025

For the range of vouchers: 02250005 - 02250014

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
02250005	WCSEA	4-WCSEA MEMBERSHIP FEES-2025	02/10/2025	\$200.00	P
02250006	CW SOLUTIONS LLC	ELEVATE & A/V PROGRAM COSTS	02/25/2025	\$2,414.04	
02250007	CW SOLUTIONS LLC	ELEVATE & A/V PROGRAM COSTS	02/25/2025	\$10,598.56	
02250008	CW SOLUTIONS LLC	ELEVATE & A/V PROGRAM COSTS	02/25/2025	\$6,254.54	
02250009	DNA DIAGNOSTICS CENTER INC	10-GENETIC TESTS	02/25/2025	\$302.00	
02250010	LEGAL LOGISTICS LLC	13-PROCESS OF SERVICE FEES	02/25/2025	\$1,095.00	
02250011	MCCORMICK SARA	10-PROCESS OF SERVICE FEES	02/25/2025	\$500.00	
02250012	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC (OFFICE DEPOT)	OFFICE SUPPLIES	02/25/2025	\$180.29	
02250013	WI DEPT OF ADMINISTRATION	CSA/DHSS SHARED ROUTER COSTS	02/25/2025	\$50.00	
02250014	MUNRO WAYNE	14-PROCESS OF SERVICE FEES	02/25/2025	\$770.00	
Grand Total:				\$22,364.43	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Clerk of Circuit Court

For the period of: February 2025

For the range of vouchers: 07241208 - 07241228 07250084 - 07250134

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
07241208	PHYSICIAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EVALUATIONS LLC	Med Exam 24ME151	01/31/2025	\$500.00	P
07241209	PHYSICIAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EVALUATIONS LLC	Med Exam 20JM114	01/29/2025	\$950.00	P
07241210	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	Atty Fee 24GN68	11/11/2024	\$290.00	P
07241211	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	24GN90	01/30/2025	\$170.00	P
07241212	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	Atty Fee 24GN84	01/30/2025	\$320.00	P
07241213	LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL J SCHMIDT LLC	Atty Fee 24CM340	01/31/2025	\$250.00	P
07241214	LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL J SCHMIDT LLC	Atty Fee 24CF308	01/31/2025	\$1,060.00	P
07241215	LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL J SCHMIDT LLC	Atty Fee 24CF127	01/31/2025	\$433.33	P
07241216	LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL J SCHMIDT LLC	Atty Fee 24CF254	01/31/2025	\$300.00	P
07241217	LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL J SCHMIDT LLC	Atty Fee 24JC42 OHP	01/31/2025	\$445.00	P
07241218	LLOYD PETER C LLC	Atty Fee 24TP16 & 24TP A OHP	01/30/2025	\$580.00	P
07241219	LLOYD PETER C LLC	Atty Fee 22JC76 OHP	01/30/2025	\$250.00	P
07241220	LLOYD PETER C LLC	Atty Fee 24JC42 OHP	01/30/2025	\$45.00	P
07241221	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 24JG43 & 44 OHP	11/08/2024	\$220.00	P
07241222	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 16JG8,9,10 OHO	12/27/2024	\$220.00	P
07241223	PHYSICIAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EVALUATIONS LLC	Med Exam 22ME154	02/13/2025	\$650.00	P
07241224	HILL & WALCZAK ATTYS	Atty Fee 24JC86 OHP	02/10/2025	\$185.00	P
07241225	HILL & WALCZAK ATTYS	Atty Fee 24JC06 OHP	02/11/2025	\$205.00	P
07241226	NASH LAW GROUP	Atty Fee 24CF195	02/04/2025	\$615.44	P
07241227	VANDERWAAL LAW SC	Atty Fee 23GN93	01/08/2025	\$250.00	P
07241228	WEILAND LUKE A ATTORNEY AT LAW LLC	Atty Fee 24PA60	02/05/2025	\$200.00	P
07250084	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 23JG11 IHP	02/04/2025	\$680.00	P
07250085	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 23CT362	02/06/2025	\$80.00	P
07250086	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 25JC3 OHP	02/06/2025	\$250.00	P
07250087	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 24CF451	02/06/2025	\$160.00	P
07250088	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 22JC83 OHP	01/31/2025	\$440.00	P
07250089	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 24GN03	02/07/2025	\$190.00	P
07250090	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 25JG1 & 2 IHP	02/07/2025	\$180.00	P
07250091	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 24JG51 OHP	02/06/2025	\$230.00	P
07250092	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 24CT198	02/18/2025	\$130.00	P
07250093	ANCHOR POINT THERAPY AND EVALUATION SERVICES LLC	Med Exam 02GN31	02/06/2025	\$710.00	P
07250094	BRANTMEIER HEIDI	Hotel Exp ordered by Cour	01/08/2025	\$490.35	P

Committee Report - County of Wood

Clerk of Circuit Court - February 2025

07250084 - 07250134 07241208 - 07241228

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
07250095	FEDDICK-GOODWIN LAW OFFICE SC	Atty Fee 25CV60	02/12/2025	\$540.40	P
07250096	FIERCE COMPASSION LLC	Med Exam 99CF187	02/03/2025	\$3,500.00	P
07250097	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	Atty Fee 16GN69	02/10/2025	\$170.00	P
07250098	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	Atty Fee 18GN08	02/10/2025	\$261.44	P
07250099	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	Atty Fee 03GN67	02/10/2025	\$230.00	P
07250100	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	Atty Fee 22GN04	02/10/2025	\$170.00	P
07250101	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	Atty Fee 92GN215	02/10/2025	\$170.00	P
07250102	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	Atty Fee 83GN211	02/10/2025	\$170.00	P
07250103	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	Atty Fee 12GN44	02/10/2025	\$170.00	P
07250104	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	Atty Fee 21GN74	02/10/2025	\$230.00	P
07250105	HILL & WALCZAK ATTYS	Atty Fee 24JC06 OHP	02/11/2025	\$275.00	P
07250106	HILL & WALCZAK ATTYS	Atty Fee 16GN05	02/12/2025	\$255.00	P
07250107	HILL & WALCZAK ATTYS	Atty fee 12GN04	02/12/2025	\$270.00	P
07250108	HILL & WALCZAK ATTYS	Atty Fee 24JC86 OHP	02/12/2025	\$290.00	P
07250109	HILL & WALCZAK ATTYS	Atty Fee 12GN05	02/12/2025	\$250.00	P
07250110	KRYSHAK LAW LLC	Atty Fee 25CV05	01/29/2025	\$150.00	P
07250111	NASH LAW GROUP	Atty Fee 24CF195	02/04/2025	\$125.00	P
07250112	SWITS LTD	Interpreter Service	02/06/2025	\$112.50	P
07250113	TRANSUNION RISK & ALTERNATIVE DATA SOLUTIONS	People Search for January 2025	02/01/2025	\$75.00	P
07250114	VAN BUREN CO SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT	Service Fee 25CV42	02/06/2025	\$54.30	P
07250115	WCCCA	Name Badge - Kim S	02/11/2025	\$45.35	P
07250116	WEILAND LEGAL SERVICES	Atty Fee 24CT373	02/16/2025	\$422.08	P
07250117	WEILAND LEGAL SERVICES	Atty Fee 20GN08	02/07/2025	\$110.00	P
07250118	US BANK	Office Supplies and Lodging	02/19/2025	\$291.81	P
07250119	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 24TP19 & 20 OHP	02/24/2025	\$450.00	P
07250120	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 24CM152	02/19/2025	\$405.00	P
07250121	ABTS GRUBOFSKI & VRUWINK LLC	Atty Fee 25JG05 & 25JG12 OHP	02/20/2025	\$420.00	P
07250122	BOETTCHER AMY J	February Mediation Services	02/25/2025	\$250.00	P
07250123	FOX VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	Court Safety Conference	02/24/2025	\$325.00	P
07250124	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	February Mediation Services	02/25/2025	\$450.00	P
07250125	GORSKI & WITTMAN SC	Atty Fee 25GN5	02/10/2025	\$280.00	P
07250126	HILL & WALCZAK ATTYS	Atty Fee 21GN72	02/12/2025	\$265.00	P
07250127	MCDONALD LAW OFFICE	Atty Fee 24GN12	02/03/2025	\$180.00	P
07250128	MEYERS FAMILY LAW LLC	Atty Fee 25CV2	01/31/2025	\$570.00	P
07250129	WEILAND LEGAL SERVICES	Atty Fee 24GN11	02/19/2025	\$299.00	P
07250130	WEILAND LEGAL SERVICES	Atty Fee 25GN01	02/19/2025	\$320.00	P
07250131	WEILAND LEGAL SERVICES	Atty Fee 19GN74	02/21/2025	\$110.00	P
07250132	WEST PAYMENT CENTER	Jan Law Library Publication	02/21/2025	\$2,104.11	P
07250133	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Office Supplies	02/20/2025	\$9.28	P
07250134	WEYMOUTH RICHARD D	February 2025 FCC Services	02/26/2025	\$5,833.33	P
Grand Total:				\$32,287.72	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATOR

For the period of: FEBRUARY 2025

For the range of vouchers: 35250008 - 35250010

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
35250008	OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER	LICENSE FEE - RSAT GRANT	02/04/2025	\$400.00	P
35250009	OPTIONS LAB INC	DRUG TESTING - JANUARY 2025	01/31/2025	\$5,955.00	P
35250010	US BANK	SUPPLIES, CONF LODGING	02/18/2025	\$1,798.35	
Grand Total:				\$8,153.35	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: DISTRICT ATTORNEY

For the period of: FEBRUARY 2025

For the range of vouchers: 11250006 - 11250006

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
11250006	PETERSON MICHELLE L	TRANSCRIPT FEE 24CF573	02/03/2025	\$15.00	
Grand Total:				\$15.00	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: REGISTER IN PROBATE

For the period of: FEBRUARY 2025

For the range of vouchers: 33250003 - 33250003

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
33250003	WI REGISTER IN PROBATE ASSN	SPRING CONFERENCE - JENSEN	02/03/2025	\$50.00	P
Grand Total:				\$50.00	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: REGISTER OF DEEDS

For the period of: FEBRUARY 2025

For the range of vouchers: 24250009 - 24250009

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
24250009	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES	02/10/2025	\$9.74	
Grand Total:				\$9.74	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: VICTIM WITNESS

For the period of: FEBRUARY 2025

For the range of vouchers: 32250002 - 32250005

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
32250002	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	OFFICE SUPPLIES	01/23/2025	\$41.19	P
32250003	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	OFFICE SUPPLIES	01/25/2025	\$60.49	P
32250004	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	OFFICE SUPPLIES	01/25/2025	\$16.57	P
32250005	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	TONER	02/17/2025	\$169.99	P
Grand Total:				\$288.24	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

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Wood County

WISCONSIN

CHILD SUPPORT
AGENCY

MARCH 2025

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Child Support Director Brent Vruwink

- Governor Evers released his biennial budget on February 18th. The budget calls for eliminating the practice of birth cost recovery. To make up for the lost revenue from ending birth cost recovery the Governor requested increased funding for child support agencies in the amount of \$650,000 per year. The Governor also called for the elimination of the requirement that child welfare agencies refer parents with children in out of home placement to the child support agency to collect support. The support that is collected from the referrals is redirected to the Human Services Department to offset the cost of care. The final issue in the budget was a funding request for the Child Support Modernization IT project. The funds are needed to create a new Child Support computer system that is more robust and up to date.
- On February 20th I was in Madison to share budget concerns with legislators.
- On February 20th I attended the WCSEA Board meeting.
- On February 21st I met with Senator Testin to discuss the State Budget and how the Governor's budget proposal would impact the Child Support Agency.
- The January performance numbers have been released. We are on target to meet all four Federal Performance measures.
- The current IV-D case count is 3,720.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Kimberly A. Stimac

CLERK OF
CIRCUIT COURT

March 2025

Monthly Report to the Judicial and Legislative Committee
Prepared by Kimberly Stimac, Clerk of Circuit Court

January 31, 2025

- Attended the monthly Zoom meeting with Clerks of Court throughout the state.

February 3, 2025

- The Information Clerk position was accepted and will be starting February 17, 2025.

February 4, 2025

- Attended the Operations Committee meeting.

February 6, 2025

- Attended the Judicial and Legislative Committee meeting.

February 7, 2025

- Met with District Attorney Jonathan Barnett to discuss procedures for criminal complaints.
- Several staff members and I participated in National Wear Red Day!

February 12, 2025

- Last week I attended the Wisconsin Clerks of Circuit Court Association (WCCCA) Legislative Day at the Capital. This is the first time I've toured the Capital and met with our district legislators. Roughly 27 Wisconsin Clerks of Circuit Courts didn't let the snowstorm keep them from attending. It was an experience that I hope I get to be a part of again.
- I personally met with Representatives Scott Krug and John Spiros as well as staff members for Senators Cory Tomczyk and Patrick Testin.
- The WCCCA is partnering with the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) asking for a \$70 million dollar increase to court support payments to help decrease the deeply unbalanced costs on the counties from an 80/20 split to a more appropriate cost sharing ratio. Each county has different issues, where increasing the court support payment would help each county apply the support where it is needed. Many counties see issues with interpreter funding and others with court appointed attorneys where the county pays 100% of court appointed attorney costs when the State Public Defenders office can't provide one.
- In 2023, the total cost to counties for running the circuit courts was \$237 million dollars, while direct support to the counties from the state was only \$28 million dollars. That's only 12% of the actual costs that counties paid. In the last 10 years, direct support from the state has increased by only \$6 million dollars, while the total cost to counties increased by nearly \$38 million dollars.
- Here in Wood County, 2014 thru 2018, the court support services payments helped cover 10% of our total expenditures. That dropped to 9% in 2019, 8% in 2020 and down to 7% in 2022. In 2023 we added the 4th branch and we were back up to only 8%.

- I am asking the committee to approve the resolution that I have attached and join the WCCCA and WCA in our efforts to increase funding to the counties in the 2025/27 budget.
- 3 staff members attended the Clerks Institute afternoon session regarding the Ins and Outs of Restitution.

February 13 and 14, 2025

- Attended the Clerks Institute held by the Office of Judicial Education.

February 17, 2025

- Our new information clerk, Nikki, started today. We are excited to have her join our staff!

February 18, 2025

- Attended the monthly judges meeting.
- Governor Evers released his budget which included “Provide more than \$24.5 million GPR in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$70 million GPR in fiscal year 2026-27 for increased court support payments. In order to be eligible for the funding, a county must offer a treatment, alternative, or diversion program.” Wood County is 1 of only 31 counties in the state that have an Adult Drug Court Treatment program according to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Counsel. The WCCCA and WCA will continue to reach out to our legislators on the Joint Finance committee to push for the full \$70 million dollar for both years.

February 19, 2025

- Attended the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) Act 235 Judicial Privacy Act Implementation – Part 1 Webinar

February 24, 2025

- Attended the WCA County Leadership meeting virtually.

February 26, 2025

- Attended the Department Head meeting.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

CORPORATION
COUNSEL OFFICE

Peter A. Kastenholz
CORPORATION COUNSEL

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
February 2025

1. Nick Flanagan has continued his job shadowing and has also been retained to handle a few hearings as well as the review of the County Board rules. We are using some of the funds the committee allocated for transition purposes to pay for this, and the transition is working out quite well. Nick formally starts on March 3, 2025.
2. Coinhub. The County succeeded in the Coinhub appeal. Specifically, the Court of Appeals affirmed the Circuit Court's dismissal of Coinhub's suit seeking the return of the \$20K the County took from Coinhub's Bitcoin vending machine. There is, however, Coinhub's separate claim against the County that the County improperly returned the \$20K to the lady who put the funds in the Bitcoin machine as part of the scam. The outcome of the Court of Appeals decision does not control that claim but should enhance the ability of our insurer's counsel to settle it. Meanwhile, the Sheriff's Department has reinitiated getting warrants to seize funds placed in Bitcoin machines when they are placed there as a part of a scam. The Sheriff's Department is not, however, returning the funds to the scammed person, and instead will release the funds only upon order of a court. From a liability perspective, this process protects the County from exposure. From the vantage point of protecting our more vulnerable citizens from having Bitcoin machines used in the process of scamming them out of tens of thousands of dollars, this process puts a burden on the owners of the Bitcoin machines to do their best to protect the vulnerable citizens from being subjected to this type of scam.
3. This is my last monthly report and so I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for your efforts in working with me and all of the departments and staff that fall within the Committee's purview. Taking positions of public leadership at the local level is not for the faint of heart or the greedy. Your public service is appreciated.



Wood County WISCONSIN

WOOD COUNTY CRIMINAL
JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

February 2025

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Criminal Justice Coordinator, Dillon Ksionek

Meetings Attended:

2/3/2025: Drug Court Staffing/Court
2/5/2025: DOJ/TAD reporting webinar
2/5/2025: Mental Health Court Staffing/Court
2/6/2025: Judicial and Legislative Committee Meeting
2/6/2025: Weekly Staffing with Outpatient Clinic Regarding Drug Court Participants
2/10/2025: Drug Court Staffing/Court
2/11/2025: Oxford House Board Meeting
2/12/2025: Mental Health Court Staffing/Court
2/13/2025: Weekly Staffing with Outpatient Clinic Regarding Drug Court Participants
2/17/2025: Drug court Staffing/Court
2/18/2025: County Board Meeting
2/19/2025: Monthly Criminal Justice Coordinator WEBEX meeting
2/20/2025: Monthly Drug Court Sustainability Meeting
2/20/2025: Weekly Staffing with Outpatient Clinic Regarding Drug Court Participants
2/24/2025: Drug Court Staffing/Court

*I attended multiple meetings concerning the RSAT program and its partners, most notably a meeting with MSTC on 2/7 and with the DOJ on 2/20.

Drug Court:

Current Participants: 20
Active Referrals: 6
2025 Terminations: 1
2025 Graduation: 3
Pending Referrals: 0

The 2024 year-end TAD grant reporting was completed the last week of January. Judge Wolf, my staff, and I worked together to complete the end of the year narrative and the required fiscal reporting. We were granted an extension to address some modifications that we needed to make due to budget expectations that were not met after the year end reporting was completed (see budget update later in report).

As previously reported, Benjamin Goodreau resigned his position as the casual Drug Court Case Manager in January. Emily Primeau has been added to our team to replace Mr. Goodreau and started as planned in her new role on 2/13/2025. Her onboarding has gone very well so far. She has started taking on a small caseload and is already proving to be a valuable member of the team.

I completed registration and secured lodging for the yearly WATCP (treatment court) conference/training in the Wisconsin Dells in April (23rd-25th). We have attended this every year (to my knowledge), and it is our

team's primary opportunity for training on current evidence-based practices. We were able to maximize attendance from our team while honoring the amount budgeted at the county and TAD level.

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Grant/DHS Allotment:

Medication Assisted Treatment Program (MARP):

We have started enrolling individuals in the MARP program again with some restrictions in place due to not yet being in the new jail. However, we wanted an opportunity to pilot our updated process and procedures and doing so has allowed us to work through some of the unforeseen obstacles to full implementation. We have been able to accommodate both existing prescriptions and new prescriptions in the last month and our team feels confident that we will be ready when we get into the new facility. We currently have 18 active participants in our MARP program despite the limitations in place. This number includes both pre-release and post-release clients. We have consistently ensured a smooth transition back into the community for each of our post release clients in the last month, and we have ensured that each person has a bridge prescription until they can attend their scheduled appointment in the community for continuity of care.

Jail Residential Treatment Program (RSAT):

We are still waiting to get into the new facility to launch the next cohort of the residential treatment program. We continue to work on fostering communication and collaborating with our partners both in the community and in the jail in the meantime.

Department Budget:

Judge Wolf and I worked together to complete a modification of the 2024 TAD grant budget (as it is required to do so if any line items deviate more than 10% from what is budgeted). The modification we created was more reflective of our actual spending and got all our line items within the 10% margins that are required. We completed the modification within the extension period granted, and it was accepted by the State Department of Justice on 2/14/2025.

After making significant modifications to the 2024 TAD grant budget, I anticipate that I will have to do the same to the 2025 budget. I intend to spend time addressing this after reporting on the first quarter expenses in April as I should have more insight on projected yearly costs at that time.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

March 7, 2025

Report to Judicial and Legislative Committee

Since the beginning of the year, the District Attorney's Office has filed 359 Criminal Complaints. 119 Complaints have been filed between the February 6, 2025 Committee Meeting and February 24, 2025.

On January 6, 2025, there were 303 cases in PROTECT listed as Under Review. As of the close of business February 26, 2025, that number is reduced to 191. Of the 45 cases from 2023 or earlier, we are down to just five uncharged referrals.

Still have two open Assistant District Attorney positions. Held an interview on February 4, 2025. That candidate decided to accept a position in Washington County. There have been two other applicants. Neither applicant is currently licensed nor will they be prior to September of 2025.

The final decision on the Grand Rapids Police Department Officer Involved Death incident was communicated with the family of the decedent on February 19, 2025. After that meeting, District Attorney distributed the written decision to the involved Law Enforcement Agencies that same evening.

I attended the Judge's Meeting on February 18, 2025. Additionally, District Attorney attended to Adult Treatment Court Sustainability Meeting. The District Attorney's Office has joined the Mental Health Court.

District Attorney's Office has two agenda items submitted for Committee approval.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

REGISTER IN
PROBATE

March 2025

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Register in Probate, Tara Jensen

- February 4 - I attended a meeting with Wood County Human Services Adult Protective Service Social Workers where I provided training on inventory and annual accountings forms. These are forms that guardians complete and submit to the Probate Office for filing. The number of adult and juvenile guardianships that currently are required to file these documents annually is approximately 1,000.
- February 6 – Judicial and Legislative Committee Meeting
- February 18 – Wood County Board Supervisor Meeting
- February 18 – Monthly Judges Meeting
- February 19 – Juvenile Clerks Meet-up Juvenile Ordinance training via Zoom
- February 19 – Act 235 (Judicial Privacy Act) Implementation training via Zoom
- February 20-21 - Interviews were held for the Legal Administrative Assistant Floater position. Judge Jerabek is keeping the judicial assistant floater as his judicial assistant so this will replace the floater position in our office. I am working with Human Resources on the hiring process.
- February 26 – Department Head Meeting
- February 28 – Judge Jerabek’s Investiture

Tara Jensen
Register in Probate
Probate Registrar

Karrie Moore
Deputy Register in Probate
Juvenile Clerk



Wood County

WISCONSIN

**REGISTER OF
DEEDS OFFICE**

Tiffany R. Ringer
Register of Deeds

MARCH 2025

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

- On February 6th, I attended the Judicial and Legislative committee meeting.
- I attended WCA Weekly Webinars.
- I continue to work alongside a handful of Registrars on the clean-up of Chapter 59.43. We had several meetings this month with the drafter and staff from Representative Krug's office.
- I attended WRDA Legislative committee meetings on February 11th and 14th.
- On February 11th, I attended the Judicial Privacy Workgroup meeting. We discussed trailer legislation that is expected soon. I've set a meeting with Corporation Counsel to discuss implementation of Act 235. On February 19th, Attolles Law held a webinar: Act 235 Implementation -Part 1. This provided beneficial information for all County departments that are required to comply with Act 235.
- I attended WRDA District 7 meeting in Green Lake County.
- I attended the Wood County Board meeting.
- Fidlar held a training session on Citadel, which is a new program within my software. Citadel will assist with the compliance of the Judicial Privacy Law in shielding necessary documents. This \$35,000.00 program was installed at no additional cost to the county due to the life-cycle contract we hold with Fidar.
- I attended the WRDA Spring Conference in Madison on February 24th.
- On February 25th, I attended a discussion about potential deed fraud/seller impersonation fraud legislation for Wisconsin that was hosted by Wisconsin Land Title Association.
- I've been notified that Fidar is increasing their licensing fee for Laredo by 15%. I am working on numbers and what this will mean for my budget. I will have something for you all to review soon.



VICTIM WITNESS SERVICES REPORT
January 29- February 27 2025

This is a general overview of Victim/Witness services for above reporting period

155 Total Victim/Witness Contacts:

- Support to victims/ witnesses by phone/email and in person
- Meetings with victims
- Coordinate consultation with attorneys
- Escort victims to hearings
- Assist with victim impact statements
- Restitution
- Community Referrals
- Crime Victim Compensation

233 - Notifications By Mail

(initial packet, hearings, bench warrant, dismissal, disposition, sentence after revocation, bond modification requests)

Victim / Witness Service Totals Served – YTD (1/1/2025-2/27/25)

- 191 parties identified as victims and 104 elected services
- Goal is to increase awareness and usage
- Monitor on monthly basis

Additional Information :

Crime Victim & Witness Assistance Program – costs submitted under Ch. 950 for the June– December 2024 . Based upon the available funds, programs will be reimbursed at **54%** for the 2024-7 reporting period.

- Wood County received \$39,708.63

Respectfully,

Alicia Parenteau, Victim Witness Coordinator
Julianne Esser, Program Assistant



RESOLUTION#

DATE March 18, 2025
 Effective Date March 18, 2025

Page 1 of 2

Introduced by Judicial & Legislative Committee

Motion:	Adopted: <input type="checkbox"/>
1 st _____	Lost: <input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd _____	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>
No: _____ Yes: _____	Absent: _____
Number of votes required:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds
Reviewed by: _____, Corp Counsel	
Reviewed by: _____, Finance Dir.	

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To seek the support of the Wood County Board of Supervisors to join the Wisconsin Clerks of Circuit Court Association (WCCCA) and the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) in their efforts to increase the Circuit Court Cost Appropriation by \$70 million payable to Wisconsin Counties in the 2025/27 Wisconsin State Budget.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County.

WHEREAS, in 2023, the total cost to Wisconsin Counties for running all Circuit Courts was \$237 million. At the same time, the Court Support funding from the state to counties was \$28 million, 12 percent of the actual cost to run the local courts; and,

WHEREAS, the Circuit Court system is intended to be a state-county partnership; and

WHEREAS, the state’s fiscal responsibilities include Judges, Court reporters, CCAP equipment, and the Circuit Court Cost Appropriation; and,

WHEREAS, the Counties are fiscally responsible for the majority of other functions of the court, including, but not limited to the following: bailiffs and court security officers, courthouse building maintenance, phones and utilities, Clerk of Court and Register in Probate, staff salaries and benefits, jury costs, psychological exams, guardians ad litem and court-appointed attorneys, expert witnesses, interpreters and translation fees, court commissioners, law libraries, corporation counsel, courtroom technology and audio visuals, copying machines

and other non-CCAP office technology, office supplies, furniture, recruitment and training, financial collection efforts, mail fees, printing costs, exhibit and file storage, access to state data, insurance, service of court documents, judicial staff attorneys, and equipment repair; and,

		NO	YES	A
1	Schulz, W			
2	Rozar, D			
3	Buttke, T			
4	Perlock, R			
5	Hovendick, T			
6	Breu, A			
7	Voight, W			
8	Hahn, J			
9	Brehm, S			
10	Thao, L			
11	Penzkover, J			
12	Valenstein, L			
13	Hokamp, J			
14	Polach, D			
15	Clendenning, B			
16	Pliml, L			
17	Zurfluh, J			
18	Hamilton, B			
19	Leichtnam, B			

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, March 18, 2025

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

WHEREAS, over the last 10 years, the increase in the county portion of cost to run the courts is nearly six times higher than the increase in Circuit Court Cost Appropriations provided to cover these costs, and counties now pay almost \$150,000,000 more than the state in unbalanced Circuit Court costs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Wood County Board of Supervisors that Wood County joins the Wisconsin Clerks of Circuit Court Association (WCCCA) and the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) in their efforts to increase the Circuit Court Cost Appropriation by \$70 million payable to Wisconsin Counties in the 2025/27 Wisconsin State Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective upon its passage and publication and a copy be sent to Governor Evers and all Wisconsin State Legislators representing Wood County.

Data Capture Group Price Quotation

Prepared for: Wood County District Attorney's Office

Attention: Jonathan Barnett

For Additional Information Contact: Stephen Glynn

PH: 603-552-5203 **FAX:**603-432-6219



37 Rolling Ridge Road
Londonderry, NH 03053

Date: 01/22/2025

Quote #: 22883

Part Number	Description	Qty.	Unit Price	Total
PPDPER0393-A	Tungsten Power PDF 5 Advanced Volume, Level A (5-24 Users) Government	15	\$154.65	\$2,319.75
MNT-PPDPER0393-A1	Power PDF 5 Advanced Volume, Level A One Year Maintenance and Support *Enterprise Level Tech Support *Minor / Major releases of Kofax Power PDF	15	\$30.93	\$463.95
Total				\$2,783.70

Terms: Net 30

Shipping: Electronic Delivery

All sales of Power PDF licenses are final. No returns for credit unless approved by Tungsten Automation.



Position Description

Name:		Department:	District Attorney
Position Title:	Office Manager	Pay Grade:	H FSLA: N
Reports To:	District Attorney	Job Classification:	Office Manager
Last Revision Date:	January 2025	Job Code:	1703A

GENERAL FUNCTION

Performs intermediate administrative work drafting documents for the court and court proceedings, performing bookkeeping and office management duties, maintains files and records, and related work as apparent or assigned. Work is performed under the general direction of the District Attorney.

SUPERVISES

Direct supervisory authority over Receptionist and Legal Assistants

RESPONSIBILITIES

A. ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

1. Directly supervises and trains legal secretarial staff. Responsible for performance evaluations and improvement measures/discipline as necessary. Responsible for determining the daily work priorities, assigning tasks and directing work. Responsible for the review and approval of county timecards as well as monitoring time off requests to ensure adequate staffing levels are maintained. Additionally, promotes a positive and professional workplace culture and acts as a liaison between the staff and the District Attorney. Together with the District Attorney, responsible for creation of work flow procedures and maintaining a positive and safe work environment.
2. Logs, reviews, and assigns all incoming referrals including, but not limited to misdemeanors, felonies, ordinances, citations, wage claims, worthless checks, juveniles, child support cases, and special prosecutor cases. Obtains any other necessary documents for referrals.
3. Works independently in the management of attorney caseload, within specified guidelines including the preparation of legal documents (i.e., complaints, warrants, search warrants, briefs, juvenile petitions, correspondence, immunization referrals, photocopy bills, etc.). Prepares filings on civil asset forfeitures, wage claims, and worthless checks. Opens and closes case files.
4. Daily use of PROTECT (PROsecutor TEchnology for Case Tracking) system and uses appropriate formats to run record checks through the TIME ([Transaction Information for the Management of Enforcement](#)) system. Office Manager will also be responsible for the

training and updated functionality of PROTECT and ensuring all staff is properly trained and proficient.

5. Performs general office management duties including answering phones, preparing deposits, ordering supplies, preparing invoices, preparing payroll, and related bookkeeping activities. Works with the District Attorney in developing the Department's annual budget and monitoring the budget throughout the year to ensure that the department is operating efficiently within its budget.
6. Serves as the first line supervisor and responsible for initial disciplinary actions and documentation of all corrective actions taken. Conducts staff meetings to share information, check in on case loads, and ensure staff are completing tasks are directed.
7. Organizes, directs, and manages word processing system, computer system, and utilizes computer systems. Prepares and maintains files and records, enters data and updates statutes and charging language within PROTECT.
8. Researches laws, judicial decisions, and statutes relevant to current local issues; maintains law library of such information for further review. Creates and prepares legal documents from descriptions and drafts of information to be contained within the document for the Court and Court proceedings.
9. Responsible to know and practice the Safety policies of the County. Perform all job tasks in a safe and prescribed manner.
10. Assists District Attorney in the recruitment of office staff, provide on-boarding of new staff, creates and facilitates in-service and training for staff, and refine and implement office Policy and Procedure Manual.

Commented [KM1]: Repetitive; same as #1

B. OTHER JOB DUTIES

1. Coordinate schedules with court, law enforcement, and witnesses in issuing and/or canceling subpoenas, warrants and writs, as required; maintain court calendar.
2. Route files to Victim/Witness to ensure compliance with Victim Right's Law.
3. Attend trainings as required.
4. Participate in on-call system for emergencies during non-work hours, as needed.
5. Any other duties as may be assigned.

EXPERIENCE, TRAINING, QUALIFICATIONS

Associate's Degree in Legal Studies, Criminal Justice, Business Administration, Administrative Assistant, or substantial work history in associated field of practice and completion of Paralegal certification preferred. High school graduate or HSED (High School Equivalency Diploma) required. A minimum of three (3) years administrative professional experience required, with a working knowledge of criminal practices and procedures preferred. Typing skills of 45 wpm required. Ability to operate a personal computer and software (Windows, Word and Excel) and experience in data entry is required, as well as the ability to learn any upgrades and changes that may occur. Must meet standards to access TIME system. Must have experience with PROTECT or similar software systems. Experience in drafting legal documents preferred. Basic, everyday living skills are needed, as is the ability to understand and follow oral and written directions as well as communicate through electronic communications like e-mails or

Microsoft Teams. Reading, writing, adding, and subtracting are needed for correspondence, data entry. Experience in supervisory position or management. Demonstrated ability to work effectively with co-workers and general public. Prior work experience in District Attorney's Office of law firm preferred. Ability to prioritize and manage multiple, concurrent projects; attention to detail and ability to effectively organize time and anticipate, plan and successfully respond to changing circumstances; thorough knowledge of court proceeding and document; general knowledge of basic bookkeeping

Basic office equipment used – calculator, scanner/copier machine, computer and printing equipment, FAX machine, telephone and imaging equipment. Case management software.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

This position requires the ability to regularly spend long hours sitting and using office equipment and computers. The position requires regularly moving from sitting to standing positions effortlessly. There is a low frequency of lifting heavy objects as well as bending, carrying, and/or reaching to maintain files or distribute mail. This position has a high frequency of working on repetitive tasks, such as typing, which requires the use of hands and fingers to control computer equipment. This position may require the use of headphones and an earpiece. Use of near and far vision is required. This position requires excellent communication skills including the ability to speak clearly and understand the speech of another person.

This description has been prepared to assist in defining job responsibilities, physical demands, and skills needed. It is not intended as a complete list of job duties, responsibilities, and/or essential functions. This description is not intended to limit or modify the right of any supervisor to assign, direct, and control the work of employees under supervision. The County retains and reserves any or all rights to change, modify, amend, add to or delete, from any section of this document as it deems, in its judgment, to be proper.

Wood County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the County will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities and encourages both prospective and current employees to discuss potential accommodations with the employer.

Employee's Signature

Date

Supervisor's Signature

Date

- The total budgeted cost of your vacant position (GRADE G / STEP 1) is **\$79,206.93**
- Below you will find the total approximate costs of the new position at GRADE H, Steps 1-4.
 - In **YELLOW** you will find the **total annual cost** for each Grade/Step at a 0.9688 FTE (2015 hrs)
 - In **PINK**, the **approx. budgeted cost savings for the position being vacant** Jan 1 thru Mar 31.
 - In **BLUE**, I've calculated the **approximate cost** for each GRADE/STEP **from April 1 thru Dec 31**.
- The cost of the new grade/steps from April 1 thru EOY comes in below the total 2025 budgeted costs for the position.

Grade	Step		FTE	Hours	Salary	Total Fringe	Total Salary		Hrly Cost Savings Jan-March
G	1	26.52	0.9688	2,015.00	53,437.80	25,769.13	79,206.93		15,321.09
Grade	Step		FTE	Hours	Salary	Total Fringe	Total Salary		Cost April 1 - Dec 31 w/Health
H	1	28.64	0.9688	2,015.00	57,709.60	26,396.19	84,105.79		67,578.83
H	2	29.36	0.9688	2,015.00	59,160.40	26,609.16	85,769.56		68,833.05
H	3	30.09	0.9688	2,015.00	60,631.35	26,825.08	87,456.43		70,104.69
H	4	30.84	0.9688	2,015.00	62,142.60	27,046.91	89,189.51		71,411.17

Thanks,
Darrin

Darrin Steinbach
Deputy Finance Director

WOOD COUNTY RULES OF THE BOARD

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SECTION 1: PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS

1.01 Purpose

The Wood County Board of Supervisors (referred to as the “County Board” or “Board”) recognizes and understands the importance of county government, and the programs and services it provides, to the citizens of Wood County. The County Board further recognizes County citizens’ rightful expectation that the financial resources provided the County through tax levy and other sources be invested in a wise and deliberate matter. Therefore, in recognition of these principles, the County Board hereby adopts the following County Board Rules (referred to as “Board Rules” or “Rules”) in order to promote orderly and efficient rules of governance for the County Board and all county-related governmental bodies.

1.02 Interpretation

These Board Rules are not intended to, and shall not, supersede any requirements or provisions in the Wisconsin Statutes. In the event of any conflict between the Wisconsin Statutes and these Board Rules, the Wisconsin Statutes shall take precedence.

SECTION 2 COUNTY BOARD ORGANIZATION¹

2.01 County Board Meetings

The two-year period of time between the organizational meetings in Section 2.01(A) hereof shall constitute a session of the County Board, and any business pending and upon which the Board has not acted prior to the close of a session can no longer be acted upon without being reintroduced.

(A) The Organizational Meeting. On the third Tuesday in April in even-numbered years, after each Spring general election at which County Board Members are elected for full terms, the County Board will meet and shall:

1. Organize and transact general business;
2. Elect a member Board Chair to perform the duties set forth in Wis. Stat. § 59.12(1). The Board Chair shall serve and perform the duties of Administrative Coordinator pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.19;
3. Elect a member Vice Chair to perform the duties set forth in Wis. Stat. § 59.12(2). The Board shall also elect a member 2nd Vice Chair, who in case of the absence or disability of the Chair and Vice Chair shall perform the duties set forth in Wis. Stat. § 59.12(2); and

¹ WCA encourages counties to adopt self-organized status under Wis. Stat. § 59.10(1). According to the Secretary of State, as of January 1, 2024, 52 counties are self-organized. If a county codifies its board rules in ordinance, a simple means by which to become self-organized is to make the selection in Section 2 of these board rules and file a copy of the ordinance with the Secretary of State’s office.

4. Appoint Committees. The Board Chair appoints committees, subject to Board confirmation, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.13 and Section 2.05 hereof.

**** DRAFTER'S NOTE: The highway committee is elected pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 83.015(1)(a) unless a different method is specified in the Board Rules.**

The County Clerk shall chair the organizational meeting of the board in April of even-numbered years until all of the elections being conducted by secret ballot are concluded at which time the county board chair will assume the responsibility of running the meeting. No substantive matters will be brought before the board during the organizational meeting until the elections are concluded.

The County Clerk shall handle the elections by identifying in turn each office that is open for election. For each office, the Clerk will declare the floor open for nominations (including self-nominations). A nomination need not (but can) be seconded. The supervisor making a nomination or one supporting a nomination may speak for or against a nominee. After a reasonable time, the Clerk will declare the time for making nominations for an office closed.

If there is only one nominee, the Clerk will declare the sole nominee as the winning candidate for the office (no motion or vote is necessary).

If there are multiple nominees for an office, the Clerk shall conduct votes by secret ballot until one candidate receives a majority of the votes being cast. During the voting process, a candidate may withdraw their name from consideration for election to the office. If a majority cannot be reached, the Clerk may allow speeches for and against candidates as well as breaks to allow the supervisors to speak privately amongst themselves. Votes may be made for any person eligible for an office; they need not have been nominated. The Clerk may appoint tellers for assisting in the election process as the Clerk deems fit.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 35 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

~~The [County Clerk/Corporation Counsel/Other] shall serve as Chair pro tempore of the Organizational Meeting until such time as the County Board elects the Board Chair. Persons nominated for Board Chair and Board Vice Chair are allowed 10 minutes to speak and answer questions. Voting shall take place by written secret ballot and the County Clerk and Corporation Counsel shall serve as ballot clerks. A majority of votes of the Board Members present shall be necessary to elect the Board Chair and Board Vice Chair.~~

(B) The Annual Meeting. The County Board will convene on the Tuesday following the second Monday in November for an annual (budget) meeting for the purpose of transacting general business ~~on a date established~~ in accordance with Wis. Stat. § 59.11(1)(a). The Annual Meeting may be adjourned from time to time

as allowed under the Wisconsin Statutes.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 3 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

(C) Regular Meetings. The County Board shall meet for the purpose of transacting general business at 9:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month, except for the month of November, during which month the County Board shall meet on the Tuesday following the second Monday of the month. This rule may be waived to an alternate day and time as may be approved by a majority vote of the Board. ~~[7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month except for the month of December, during which month the County Board shall meet on the second Tuesday of the month].~~

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 3 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

(D) Special Meetings. Special meetings of the County Board may be called in accordance with Wis. Stat. § 59.11(2) *[or at the call of the Board Chair]*. If a meeting is called pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.11(2), the written request delivered to the County Clerk shall conform to Wis. Stat. § 59.11(2)(a) and contain the proposed agenda for the meeting.

2.02 County Board Meeting Agenda Responsibilities

(A) The Board Chair, in consultation with the County Clerk is responsible for the contents of the agenda for any County Board meeting except for a special meeting called pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.11(2)(a).

(B) Any member of the Board desiring an item to be placed on the agenda for a board meeting shall either:

1. Request that the Board Chair place the item on the agenda and the Board Chair may grant or refuse the request; or
2. Make a motion during the Future Agenda Items portion of the agenda at a County Board meeting to have an item placed on the agenda for the next meeting and, if such motion is adopted, the item shall be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

(C) The County Clerk, in consultation with the Board Chair, is responsible for providing notice of every meeting of the County Board by posting the agenda in compliance with Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law, Wis. Stat. § 19.81, et seq.

(D) The Chairperson of each committee of the County Board shall have filed with the County Clerk no later than 2:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to each county board session, notification of all business, including ordinances, resolutions, claims and reports to be brought before the board by the respective committees.

This rule shall also apply to individual supervisors. The County Clerk shall have compiled from the information filed by the various Committee Chairpersons or individual supervisors an agenda containing the business to be presented at the next session of the county board. A copy of the agenda and resolutions shall be on file in the County Clerk's office.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 8(A)-(D) of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

(E) The County Clerk shall distribute the agenda and meeting packet (including a copy of each ordinance, resolution and report listed thereon) to all County Board Members, and the Corporation Counsel, in addition to any other interested persons identified by the Board Chair, by 4:00 p.m. on the Wednesday immediately preceding a regular County Board meeting. For special meetings, the agenda and meeting packet shall be delivered at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting except in the event of an emergency, in which case the agenda and meeting packet shall be delivered as soon as practicable. ~~Any Committee or Board Member responsible for submitting materials (resolutions, ordinances, ordinance amendments, reports, etc.) for inclusion in the meeting packet shall provide the materials to the County Clerk no later than [5:00 p.m. on the Thursday] preceding the week of the regular meeting.~~—The agenda and meeting packets shall be delivered in electronic format to the recipient's county email address, ~~unless a recipient requests a hard copy of the materials.~~ Any late agenda items including resolutions, minutes, or ordinances shall be mailed to the County Board Supervisors and news media no later than the Friday immediately preceding that month's County Board session. The requirements of this Section 2.02(~~DE~~) may be waived, in whole or in part, by the Board Chair in their discretion.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 8(A), (B), (C) of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

2.03 County Email Addresses

The County shall provide every Board Member with a county email address. All Board Members shall utilize the county email address for county business and shall not conduct county business on any other email address.

2.04 Committees of the County Board and Other Boards and Commissions – Creation and Existence

(A) Standing Committees. The County Board has established the standing committees (referred to as “Standing Committees”) as designated in Appendix A to these Board Rules. Standing Committees are regular committees of the County Board, shall have the authority, power, duties and responsibilities as set forth in Appendix A and shall operate according to the procedures set forth in Appendix A.

(B) Ad Hoc Committees. The County Board may form ad hoc committees (referred to as “Ad Hoc Committees”) from time to time by resolution or action of

the County Board. Any resolution or action creating an Ad Hoc Committee shall specify the name of the committee, the committee's purpose, the number of members of the committee, the appointing authority for committee membership, the duration of the committee and the committee's reporting relationship. The continuing duration of any Ad Hoc Committee that has not met for one year shall be studied by the committee responsible for the oversight of the Ad Hoc Committee, and any recommendation for termination shall be presented by resolution to the County Board for final decision. Appendix A will be updated by May 1 in even-numbered years to reflect current Ad Hoc Committees and particulars surrounding each particular Ad Hoc Committee's operations.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 31 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

(C) In these Board Rules, Ad Hoc Committees and Standing Committees are together referred to as "Committees."

(D) Other Boards and Commissions. The County may be associated with certain Other Boards and Commissions (referred to as "Other Boards and Commissions"). Appendix A will be updated from time to time to reflect current Other Boards and Commissions and particulars surrounding operations.

(E) The County Board Chairperson shall be an ex officio member of every committee of the Board and may attend the meetings of the committees. Pursuant to Section 3.01 of these Rules, the County Board Chairperson shall be a voting member, with full rights and privileges, at any committee meeting at which the Board Chairperson's presence is necessary to provide a quorum for the meeting. Where the Board Chairperson is named as an official member of a committee, the Board Chairperson shall have the right to vote.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 38 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

2.05 Committee and Other Boards and Commissions Appointments and Removals

(A) Organizing Committees. At the time of the Organizational Meeting or within three days thereafter, the County Board Chairperson shall appoint from the members of the County Board all Committees as herein stated, unless otherwise ordered or provided by state statutes. [s. 59.13(1), Wis. Stats.] The appointments made herein must be ratified by a majority vote of the County Board members present at the Organizational Meeting or the next scheduled meeting of the Board. The committees may meet and take action prior to their ratification. No motions to amend the motion to ratify are allowable.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 37 & 39 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

~~At the time of the Organizational Meeting or within one (1) week thereafter, the~~

~~Board Chair shall appoint members of committees and communicate such appointments to all members of the County Board.]~~

~~-OR-~~

~~[The Board hereby establishes the Committee on Committees, which shall convene within one (1) week following each Organizational Meeting for purposes of nominating members to Standing Committees. The Committee on Committees shall be comprised of seven (7) members consisting of the Board Chair, Board Vice Chair and five (5) at-large Board Members elected by the County Board at the Organizational Meeting. Such election shall occur by ballot with the 5 members receiving the most votes on the ballot being elected. The Board Chair shall serve as chair of the Committee on Committees. The Committee on Committees shall nominate persons to serve on each Standing Committee in writing at the first Board meeting following the Organizational Meeting. The Board shall either confirm or reject any nomination for each Standing Committee and in the event of rejection, the Board shall appoint the member to the Standing Committee relating to such rejection. In making nominations, the Committee on Committees shall consider the interest forms submitted by Board Members and Board Member tenure and previous service on Standing Committees.]~~

~~-OR-~~

~~[Other process established by the Board]~~

(B) Initial Meeting and Electing Committee Officers. Each main committee (except Operations) shall meet within one week of the naming of the committee members by the County Board Chairperson (hereinafter the “Initial Meeting”). In order to maximize efficiency, the date and time of the Initial Meetings shall be set by the County Clerk. The County Clerk shall chair the Initial Meeting of Committees until the Committee elects a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, at which time the Committee chairperson will assume the responsibility of running the meeting. In all Committees (except Operations), the members thereof shall elect the chairperson at the Initial Meeting of the committee. None of the main committees may elect as its chair a supervisor who is serving as a chair of another main committee. A Committee Chairperson shall vote on all matters brought before the committee. A vice-chairperson shall be elected at the Committee’s Initial Meeting. In electing the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, where not a unanimous vote, the vote must be recorded.

The County Board Chair, in his or her sole discretion, may remove a member’s designation as Chair or Vice Chair of a committee at any time for any reason. Committees may, by a two-thirds vote, remove and replace the vice-chairperson, for non-punitive reasons, with the reasons for removal being clearly set forth in the minutes. A committee does not have the authority to punish its members, but should report improper behavior by a committee member to the entire board.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 40 of the August 2022 Board

Rules (prior Rules)]

~~[At the first meeting of each Standing Committee following the Organizational Meeting, the Standing Committee shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair of each Standing Committee, which designations are subject to County Board confirmation.]~~

~~-OR-~~

~~[At the time of appointments to Standing Committees, the Board Chair shall designate Chairs and Vice Chairs for each Standing Committee.]~~

(C) Committee Vacancies. The County Board Chairperson shall have the authority to replace committee members, when in their judgment, their work has been found to be unsatisfactory or their unexcused absences have exceeded two meetings. New appointments shall be ratified by the County Board.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 41 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

~~[The Board Chair may recommend the removal of any member of any Committee at any time for any reason to the County Board and the County Board may make such removal. The Board Chair may recommend the removal of the designation as Chair or Vice Chair of any Committee at any time for any reason and the County Board may make such removal.]~~

~~-OR-~~

~~[The Board Chair, in his or her sole discretion, may remove any member of any Committee at any time for any reason. The Board Chair, in his or her sole discretion, may remove the designation as Chair or Vice Chair at any time for any reason.]~~

2.06 Committees and Other Boards and Commissions Meeting Agenda Responsibilities

(A) ~~In At~~ the ~~first meeting~~Initial Meeting of a Committee ~~following the Organizational Meeting~~, the Committee shall adopt dates and times for regular Committee meetings and shall make every attempt to schedule such meetings prior to the regular County Board meetings and with due regard to the meeting dates and times of other Committees.

(B) The Committee Chair shall serve as the Chair of a Committee meeting and, in consultation with the County Clerk and Board Chair, is responsible for the preparation of all Committee meeting agendas.

1. Committee meetings may be called by the Committee Chairperson,

the County Board Chairperson, or by the County Board Vice-Chairperson. Notice of all committee meetings shall be given to the County Clerk, who shall notify all committee members and others as directed. Notice of at least 24 hours, whenever possible, but not less than 2 hours, shall be given of all committee meetings. Notices shall state the date, time, place of meeting, agenda and whether or not any of the meeting may be held in closed session.

2. The Chairperson of each Committee of the County Board is responsible to make every effort to have filed with the County Clerk no later than 4 p.m. on each Wednesday the agenda for any committee meeting to be held the following week. Each committee agenda shall separately list all minutes, vouchers and reports to be reviewed irrespective if a consent agenda is used or not. In that practice often necessitates a Committee Chair authorizing committee members and department heads to place matters on upcoming committee agendas as they arise, the County Clerk will verify with the Committee Chairs late each Wednesday afternoon the acceptability of the draft agenda and the Committee Chair is responsible for then finalizing the agenda within the time constraints given by the County Clerk so that the open meeting law notice requirements can be met. Late additions to a committee agenda that meet the requirements of the open meetings law are permissible if made by or with the permission of the Committee Chair.
3. The County Clerk, in consultation with the Committee Chair, is responsible for providing notice of every meeting of the Committee by posting the agenda in compliance with Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law, Wis. Stat. § 19.81, et seq.
4. The agenda for all standing committees, ad-hoc committees and subcommittees of the county board shall include an item ideally placed at the end of the agenda, which calls upon members to offer items for the agenda of the next meeting. The Chair shall indicate concurrence or dissent with any item offered. If the Chair dissents, the member offering the item may appeal the Chair's decision to the entire committee and, after a second is received, the entire committee will vote by simple majority to affirm or override the decision of the Chair.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 8(E), (F) & 20 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

(C) A Committee Chair shall run a committee meeting in conformance with these rules. The goal of the Committee Chair is to give the members of a committee an opportunity to provide a reasonable amount of input on a matter before the committee. Nonmembers of a committee in attendance do not have a right to provide input on an issue other than when public comment is open and as otherwise directed by the Chair, subject to appeal to the committee. A County Board

Supervisor who is not a member of a committee of the county board has the right to provide input on matters before all such committees, subject to the control of the Committee Chair, whose actions are appealable to the committee. A Committee Chair retains all of the rights and obligations of other committee members including making and seconding motions. A Committee Chair may deviate from the order of an agenda if there is no objection by the committee members and it would not violate the open meetings law with respect to public notice. If a committee utilizes a consent agenda, then any member of the committee may, without a second needed, have an item on the consent agenda removed therefrom and held out for discussion by the committee at that meeting. Matters on a committee agenda may be discussed without a motion first being made and the committee chair may call for a motion when he or she deems it appropriate. A Committee Chair may note for purposes of the minutes any consensus of the committee but a committee member may have a matter formally voted upon and any matter that is or may be contentious should be voted upon after a motion is first made and seconded.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 8(G) of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

(D) A Committee or Other Board and Commission may request another Committee or Other Board and Commission to attend a future meeting of the requesting body. In such event, each Committee and Other Board and Commission shall prepare an agenda for the joint meeting in the usual manner.

2.07 County Board Member Compensation and Expense Reimbursement

**** DRAFTER'S NOTE: Counties that have elected self-organized status may compensate Board members as they see fit. Some counties have adopted an annual salary for Board members and others have maintained the traditional per diem method. If a salary system is adopted, this section should provide the salary and any additional amounts for Chair and Vice Chair, if any. The language below applies to counties that pay per diem.**

(A) County Board Meetings Monthly Compensation. County Board Members shall receive compensation in the form of a monthly salary as established by the County Board of \$150.00/month. To collect the monthly salary, a supervisor must attend the county board meeting that month and have attended at least one committee meeting that month, unless excused.

(B) Board Chair Compensation. In addition to the compensation set forth in this Section 2.07, the Board Chair shall receive an additional \$20,000.00 annual stipend for performing duties as Administrative Coordinator. If the Board Chair is unable or unwilling to perform the duties of Board Chair for a period of four weeks or longer, the Board Chair shall not be paid the additional compensation herein, and the compensation shall be paid to the Vice Chair for the months during which the Vice Chair is performing the duties of the Board Chair.

(C) Board Vice Chair Compensation. In addition to the compensation set forth in this Section 2.07, the Board Vice-Chair shall receive an additional \$80.00/month. If the Vice Chair is unable or unwilling to perform the duties of Vice Chair for a period of four weeks or longer, the Vice Chair shall not be paid the additional compensation herein, and the compensation shall be paid to the 2nd Vice Chair for the months during which the 2nd Vice Chair is performing the duties of Vice Chair.

(D) ~~Committee Meetings~~Supervisor Per Diems for Meeting Attendance. Board Members shall also receive compensation in the form of a per diem at the rate of \$50.00/meeting for attending a Board or Committee meeting. Board Members are entitled to receive compensation for attending more than one meeting in a day. A Supervisor shall attend all meetings of the committees they are appointed to unless excused for good cause by the Chairperson of the committee. An unexcused absence from a committee meeting will result in a \$20 reduction of the Supervisor's pay for that month.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 5 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

(E) Additional Supervisor Per Diems and Mileage. Supervisors may be authorized an additional per diem and mileage as follows:

1. The County Board Chairperson may authorize per diem and mileage to a member of a committee who performs extra service which is within the purpose and duties of the committee.
2. A committee may authorize per diem and mileage for a member of the committee who performs extra service which is within the purpose and duties of the committee. (A committee chairperson does not possess this authority on their own.)

The committee member is only entitled to receive the per diem and mileage if they provide a report to the committee that is satisfactory to the committee. The report shall be contained within or be attached to the committee's minutes.

The number of days for which per diem and mileage may be paid for service on committees in any year shall not exceed 125 days. A change of this rule requires a two-thirds vote of the members present. [s. 59.13(2)(b), Wis. Stats.]

Mileage will be allowed to the driver only. No mileage will be allowed while traveling in a county vehicle.

A County Board supervisor is not entitled to per diem or mileage for appearing before a committee of which he or she is not a member unless he or she is directed by the County Board, County Board Chairperson, or committee to appear or unless he or she is invited to appear as a representative of their committee on a matter within the authorized concern of their committee. [57 OAG 130].

~~Other Meetings. Board Members shall receive [●] for attending a meeting of a body that is not a Committee only with the Board Chair's prior approval. Board Members who are not members of the Committee may receive compensation as provided in this Section 2.07 for attending a meeting only when attendance at the meeting is directed or approved by the Board Chair.~~

~~[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 16 & 30 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]~~

~~(F) Travel Authorization and Expense Reimbursement.~~

~~Authorization of county officers, agents, committee members and employees to travel shall be in accordance with the following:~~

- ~~1. The authorization of county officers, agents, committee members, and employees to travel and attend meetings and conventions within the State of Wisconsin shall be within the responsibility and authority of the appropriate committee/or department head having jurisdiction of that officer, committee member, agent, or employee. Authority to travel or attend meetings or conventions may be authorized by a committee/or department head if the cost thereof is within the established budget. Actions on such matters shall be reported to the committee.~~
- ~~2. The County Board Chairperson shall be allowed expenses and per diem for travel within the State to attend to the concerns of the County.~~
- ~~3. Out-of-state travel to attend meetings and conventions must be authorized by the oversight committee. If any Wood County tax levy dollars are used to fund the out-of-state travel, then County Board authorization is required and the costs, including costs of replacement labor where applicable, must be set forth. If time does not permit to obtain authorization from the County Board, then the County Board Chair shall have the authority to grant the authorization.~~
- ~~4. For the annual WCA convention, supervisors are allowed a maximum of three full days per diem and two nights of hotel accommodations, unless for good reason the county board chairperson authorizes otherwise in writing before the convention.~~
- ~~5. The department head or committee chairperson shall determine whether funds may be advanced for attendance at seminars, meetings or conventions.~~
- ~~6. Travel time is not counted in determining per diems.~~

~~County employees, committee members and officers shall be reimbursed for meal~~

expenses in accordance with the following:

1. Morning meal - \$8.00 - Leave before 6:00 a.m.
2. Noon meal - \$12.00 - Leave before 10:30 a.m., Return after 1:30 p.m.
3. Evening meal - \$18.00 - Return after 6:00 p.m.
4. Receipts for meals are not required. Maximum not to be exceeded
5. No meal allowance shall be granted for travel within Wood County.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 16 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

~~Board Members shall be reimbursed for expenses in the amounts, and according to the regulations and procedures, established by the [Finance/Executive/Personnel] Committee [subject to confirmation by the County Board] from time to time. Board Members shall be entitled to reimbursement of only actual mileage traveled for attendance at any meeting for which compensation is paid and only if the Board Member utilizes his or her personal vehicle for the travel.~~

(G) No per diem compensation shall be paid for attendance at any meeting held which begins one hour or less before or which ends one hour or less after a County Board meeting.

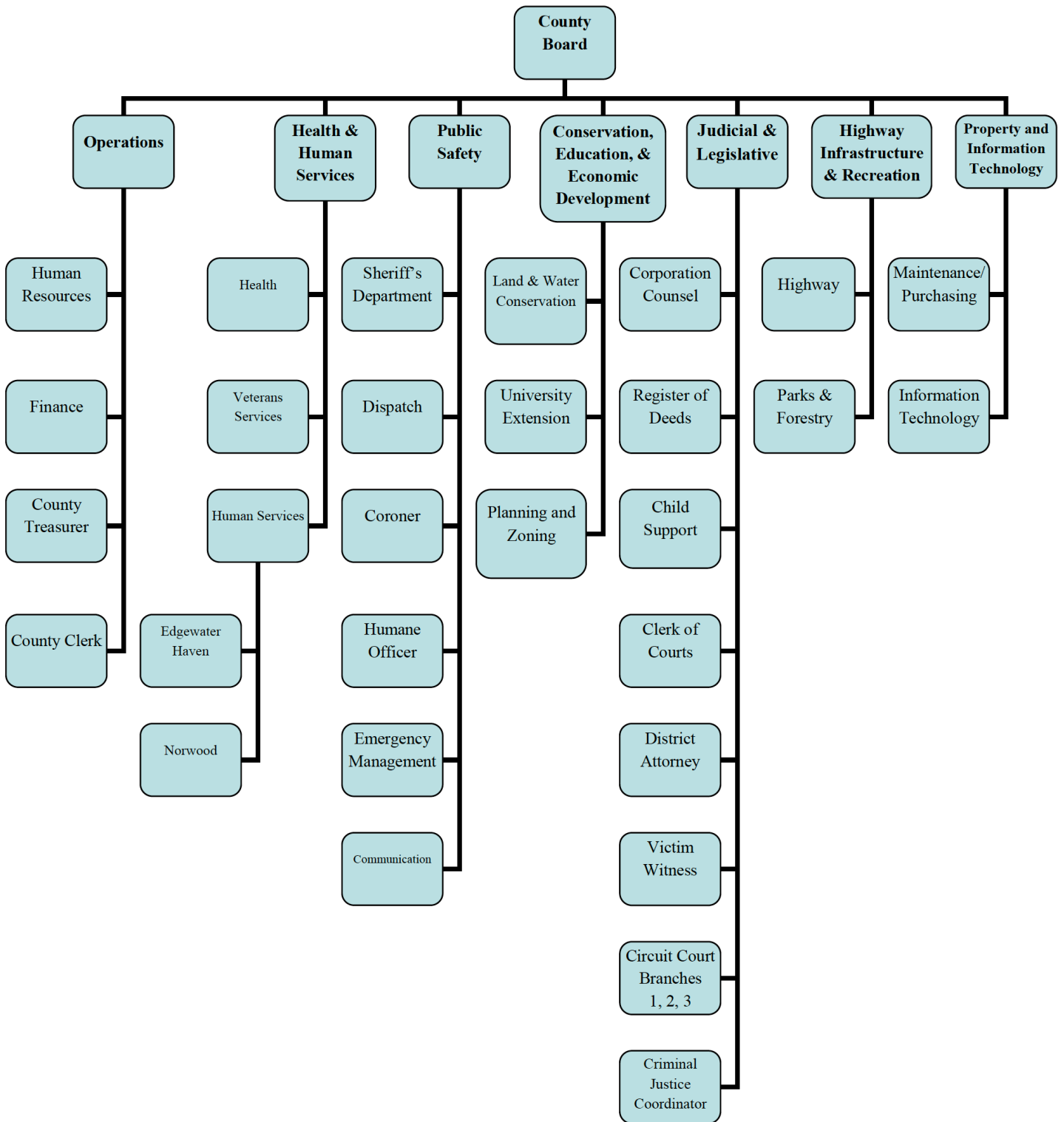
~~(H) Board Members~~All claims for per diems, mileage or reimbursement shall be made on a meeting/expense voucher form. Claims for reimbursement shall include only expenses incurred prior to the end of the preceding month, shall complete and sign any forms required to verify attendance and expenses as established by the [Finance/Executive/Personnel] Committee [and confirmed by the County Board] from time to time. Such forms are required toshall be submitted to the County Clerk's Office not later than the not more than two (2) days following the end of the month in which the expenses were incurred or attendance is claimedfirst Monday of each month. Any claims for per diems, mileage or reimbursement shall be processed and paid by the County except those which are in excess of sums permitted by County Rule, Resolution or Ordinance, or State Statute; in which case the allowable limit shall be paid upon approval by the County Board. In no instance shall a claim be processed or paid which is received by the County Clerk's Office more than 24 months after the date in which the meeting/expense occurred. [s. 893.44(1), Wis. Stats.].

(I) In April of even numbered years when supervisors are elected, both the outgoing and incoming supervisor from a district shall be entitled to collect the April monthly salary.

[History: Adopted by the County Board of Wood County as Rule 21 of the August 2022 Board Rules (prior Rules)]

Appendix A

WOOD COUNTY COMMITTEE STRUCTURE ORGANIZATION CHART



MAIN COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Membership shall consist of five (5) Wood County Supervisors appointed by the County Board Chairperson, plus the Chairperson of the Farm Service Agency (FSA). The FSA chairperson's authority on the Committee shall only be with respect to matters addressed by the Land & Water Conservation Department. The Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

The Conservation, Education and Economic Development Committee shall have oversight of the following departments: Land & Water Conservation, Planning and Zoning, and University Extension. The Committee shall perform the following functions with respect to the departments it oversees: draft proposed budgets; audit the revenues and expenditures pursuant to the approved budgets; study and develop recommendations to the county board pertaining to changes in the budgets, functions, and personnel; and oversee the management of the departments and the services they provide.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Membership shall consist of five (5) Wood County Supervisors appointed by the County Board Chairperson and four (4) citizen representatives. The four citizen representatives shall be:

1. a physician,
2. a registered nurse,
3. an individual who has demonstrated interest or competence in the field of public health and human services, and
4. an individual who has received services for mental illness, developmental disability, alcoholism or drug dependency, or a family member of such an individual.

The Health and Human Services Committee shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

The Health and Human Services Committee shall have oversight of the following departments: Human Services, Public Health Department, and Veteran's Service Office. The Committee shall perform the following functions with respect to the departments it oversees: draft proposed budgets; audit the revenues and expenditures pursuant to the approved budgets; study and develop recommendations to the county board pertaining to changes in the budgets, functions, and personnel; and oversee the management of the departments and the services they provide.

HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Membership shall consist of five (5) Wood County Supervisors appointed by the County Board Chairperson. The Highway Infrastructure and Recreation Committee shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

The Highway Infrastructure and Recreation Committee shall have oversight of the following departments: Highway Department and Parks and Forestry Department. The Committee shall perform the following functions with respect to the departments it oversees: draft proposed budgets; audit the revenues and

expenditures pursuant to the approved budgets; study and develop recommendations to the county board pertaining to changes in the budgets, functions, and personnel; and oversee the management of the departments and the services they provide.

JUDICIAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Membership shall consist of five (5) Wood County Supervisors appointed by the County Board Chairperson. The Judicial & Legislative Committee shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

The Judicial & Legislative Committee shall have oversight of the following departments: Clerk of Court, District Attorney, Register of Deeds, Family Court Commissioner, Corporation Counsel, Wood County Circuit Courts, Victim Witness, and Child Support. The Committee shall perform the following functions with respect to the departments it oversees: draft proposed budgets; audit the revenues and expenditures pursuant to the approved budgets; study and develop recommendations to the county board pertaining to changes in the budgets, functions, and personnel; and oversee the management of the departments and the services they provide.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Membership on the Operations Committee shall be the County Board Chairperson, the County Board Vice-Chairperson and three members of the County Board at large appointed by the County Board Chairperson. The County Board Chairperson or another member of the committee shall serve as the committee chair as determined by the County Board Chairperson. The Operations Committee shall elect a Vice-Chairperson.

The Operations Committee shall have oversight of the following departments: County Clerk, County Treasurer, Finance, and Human Resources. The Committee shall perform the following functions with respect to the departments it oversees: draft proposed budgets; audit the revenues and expenditures pursuant to the approved budgets; study and develop recommendations to the county board pertaining to changes in the budgets, functions, and personnel; and oversee the management of the departments and the services they provide.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Membership shall consist of five (5) Wood County Supervisors appointed by the County Board Chairperson. The Public Safety Committee shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

The Public Safety Committee shall have oversight of the following departments: Central Dispatch, Communications, Coroner, Emergency Management, Humane Officer, and Sherriff's Department. The Committee shall perform the following functions with respect to the departments it oversees: draft proposed budgets; audit the revenues and expenditures pursuant to the approved budgets; study and develop recommendations to the county board pertaining to changes in the budgets, functions, and personnel; and oversee the management of the departments and the services they provide.

PROPERTY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Membership shall consist of five (5) Wood County Supervisors appointed by the County Board Chairperson. The Property and Information Technology Committee shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

The Property and Information Technology Committee shall have oversight of the Maintenance and Information Technology departments. The Committee shall perform the following functions with respect to the departments it oversees: draft proposed budgets; audit the revenues and expenditures pursuant to the approved budgets; study and develop recommendations to the county board pertaining to changes in the budgets, functions, and personnel; and oversee the management of the departments and the services they provide.

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS MADE UP OF SUPERVISORS AND OTHERS

The Wood County Board Chairperson will make the following membership appointments and others as needed:

- Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) 3 appointed by County Board at least 2 supervisors
- Central Records Advisory Committee 1 Supervisor
- Civil Service Commission No Supervisors
- Community Development Block Grant Committee 1 Supervisor
- Criminal Justice Task Force County Board Chairperson
- Ethics Committee 1 Supervisor, 2 citizens, 2 employees
- Fair Boards
 - Board of Marshfield Fairground Committee 3 Supervisors
 - Central Wisconsin State Fair Board of Directors 1 Supervisor
- Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development 1 Supervisor
- Land Information Council 1 Supervisor, 1 rep from Land Information Office, A realtor, A public safety or emergency communications rep employed w/in the county, the county surveyor or a registered land surveyor employed w/in the county, any other member of the board or public that the board designates.
- Liaison Officer 1 Supervisor
- Liaison Officer to HoChunk Nation 1 Supervisor
- Library Boards
 - McMillan Memorial Library Board 1 Supervisor
 - Wood County Library Board 1 or 2 Supervisors
 - South Central Library Board 1 Supervisor or 1 citizen
- Local Emergency Planning Committee 1 Supervisor
- North Central Community Action 1 Supervisor
- North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Brd. 1 Supervisor
- Northeast Wisconsin Public Safety Communications (NEWCOM) 1 Supervisor
- Security and Facilities Committee 1 Supervisor
- State Wildlife Advisory Committee 1 Supervisor
- Traffic Safety Commission 1 Supervisor
- University Commission – UW Marshfield/Wood County 3 Supervisors
- Veterans Service Commission 3 Veterans
- Wood County Board Chaplain 1 Supervisor
- Wood County Board Parliamentarian(s) 1 or 2 Supervisors

ETHICS COMMITTEE

Shall be composed of five members; two County citizens, two County employees, and one County Board Supervisor. Members shall be appointed by the County Board Chairperson, subject to Board approval. Members shall serve three-year terms. Officers will be elected annually by the Committee.

The duties and policy of the Ethics Committee shall be to ensure the proper operation of County government by its supervisors, officials, and employees so that the public may have confidence in the integrity of its government. Wisconsin Statute s. 19.59 and the Code of Ethics for the Wood County Board of Supervisors, officials, and employees, as approved by the Wood County Board, shall govern the duties and responsibilities of the Ethics Committee.

WOOD COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

The "Library Board" shall consist of seven members appointed by the County Board Chairperson from any city, village, or town in the county where no municipal tax for a public library service is levied. The seven-member board shall also consist of one or two County Board Supervisors and shall include at least one school district administrator, or their designee, of a school district located in whole or in part in the County [Wis. Stats. s. 43.57(4)]. The Library Board shall have the powers conferred on it by the Wood County Board in Resolution #7, dated August 14, 1973, and the authority granted in Wis. Stats. s. 43.57 and 43.58.

LIBRARY SERVICE

The South Central Library Service is a Federated Public Library System created pursuant to s. 43.19, Wis. Stats. Wood County currently has four members on the System's Board, one of which shall be a County Board Supervisor, and all of who shall be appointed by the County Board Chairperson. The Library System shall have those powers set forth in Wis. Stats. s. 43.19.

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is created pursuant to ss. 59.54(8), 166.20, and 166.21, Wis. Stats. and shall exercise the authority set forth in those statutes. Generally, the committee shall implement programs and conduct activities that are designed to prepare the county to respond to emergencies involving the accidental release of hazardous substances.

There shall be no set number of members to the committee; the members shall be appointed by the County Board Chairperson and shall include representatives from those entities identified in Resolution #88-7-6.

MARSHFIELD FAIRGROUND COMMISSION

The "Fairgrounds Commission" shall consist of six members; three City of Marshfield Alderman and three Wood County Board Supervisors. The Fairgrounds Commission shall have the full, complete, and exclusive jurisdiction of the fairgrounds, including the advertising for and the awarding of bids for the construction, improvement or maintenance of any building or buildings or land improvements, the letting of contracts therefor, and the care, custody, maintenance, improvement, and repair of said lands and buildings

during its operation until changed by joint resolutions of the City of Marshfield and the Wood County Board of Supervisors.

THE UNIVERSITY COMMISSION: UW-MARSHFIELD/WOOD COUNTY

The County Board Chairperson shall appoint three members of the Board to serve on the University Commission. The Commission shall have authority over the University of Wisconsin-Marshfield/Wood County as provided for in Resolution #2, dated August 14, 1962.

WOOD COUNTY STATE WILDLIFE AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Wood County State Wildlife Area Advisory Committee shall consist of nine citizen members, all appointed by the County Board Chairperson. The Committee shall advise the Park and Forestry Committee on issues related to the management of land owned by the County and leased to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Wood County State Wildlife Area). The Committee is further described and governed by the Wood County State Wildlife Area Advisory Committee Rules of Order as adopted by the Wood County Board.