



MEMORANDUM

Date: January 30, 2009

To: Lindy Funkhouser, Assistant County Administrator
for Justice and Law Enforcement

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "CHH", is written over the printed name "C.H. Huckelberry".

Re: Office of Court Appointed Counsel

Please confer with the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court regarding a request for voluntary hourly fee reductions for Office of Court Appointed Council contract attorneys. The County Attorney Civil Division is making similar requests of other contract attorneys representing the County in civil matters. This request is based on the current economic conditions where employers throughout the country are considering asking employees to take voluntary pay reductions, no pay increases, and work furloughs to reduce personnel costs. It would be appropriate to make a request of the contract attorney community to determine their willingness to make slight contract hourly fee or not-to-exceed cost reductions.

I understand that we have already determined that in certain contract areas of representation the County is overpaying by a substantial amount, as much as 20 percent. These reductions should occur independent of our request for voluntary cost reductions.

Please advise me of the outcome of these discussions with contract attorneys.

CHH/jj

c: The Honorable Jan Kearney, Presiding Judge, Superior Court
Martin Willett, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Kent Batty, Superior Court Administrator
Tom Burke, Finance and Risk Management Director
Thomas House, Budget Manager, Finance and Risk Management