



County of Monterey

Item No.

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: A 24-490

October 22, 2024

Introduced: 10/11/2024

Version: 1

Current Status: ATS Review

Matter Type: BoS Agreement

- a. Approve and authorize the Public Defender or designee to execute an Agreement with Merideth Canham-Nelson, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, to provide supervision for California State University Monterey Bay student intern, in the amount of \$7,500, for a seventeen-month term retroactive date of August 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025;
- b. Approve and authorize the Public Defender or designee to execute up to three (3) amendments, extending the agreement by one (1) year each, where total additional costs do not exceed 10% of the contract amount (\$750) and the amendments do not alter significantly the scope of work, and do not exceed the maximum amount of \$8,250;
- c. Accept the risk provisions as recommended by the Public Defender.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Approve and authorize the Public Defender or designee to execute an Agreement with Merideth Canham-Nelson, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, to provide supervision for California State University Monterey Bay student intern, in the amount of \$7,500, for a seventeen-month term retroactive date of August 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025;
- b. Approve and authorize the Public Defender or designee to execute up to three (3) amendments, extending the agreement by one (1) year each, where total additional costs do not exceed 10% of the contract amount (\$750) and the amendments do not alter significantly the scope of work, and do not exceed the maximum amount of \$8,250;
- c. Accept the risk provisions as recommended by the Public Defender.

SUMMARY:

The Public Defender office will host a student intern from California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) earning a Master of Social Work. The CSUMB requires the intern to be supervised by a Licensed Clinical Social Worker during the internship period.

DISCUSSION:

The Public Defender provides internship programs for students seeking a career in criminal law, social work, investigations, and administration. Interns are provided with an opportunity for hands-on work experience and exposure to services the Public Defender offers to indigent defendants, juveniles, and community members in both criminal and civil proceedings.

In June of 2020, the Public Defender added a Psychiatric Social Worker (non-licensed) position to provide recommendations and treatment intervention plans to clients as proactive steps to address issues leading to their involvement in the criminal justice system and mental health courts. Since the inception of the position, the Public Defender has received inquiries for internship opportunities and has recruited students who major in social work to assist in assignments such as, conducting interviews, gathering information for mitigation, preparing comprehensive psychosocial histories, providing social services information and education, and accompanying holistic defense clients at service provider intakes.

The contractor, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, is needed to provide remote supervision to a student intern attending California State University Monterey Bay. The intern is an integral part of the defense team and will assist the Public Defender with delivering recovery oriented and culturally competent services focused on the strengths and resilience of a person. Internships allow for students to cultivate relationships with community programs and social service providers as well as work collaboratively with partners to meet the comprehensive needs of clients.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

County Counsel has reviewed Agreement as to legal form. Auditor Controller has reviewed as to fiscal provisions. Risk Manager has reviewed the insurance and indemnity provisions.

FINANCING:

The costs associated with this agreement are included in the Public Defender's FY 2024-25 Adopted Budget, Fund 001, department 2270, Budget Unit 8169, Appropriation Unit PB001. Future year's costs will be included in the respective annual budgets.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

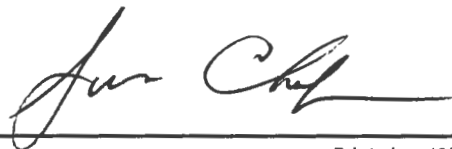
This recommendation supports the Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives by promoting an organization that practices efficient and effective resource management. As well as improving the quality of life through County supported programs and services. Lastly, this recommendation also supports Public Safety in creating a safe environment for people to achieve their potential, communities to thrive and grow while reducing violent crimes.

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives

- Economic Development
- Administration
- Health & Human Services
- Infrastructure
- Public Safety

Prepared by: Becky Avila, Management Analyst II, x.3048

Approved by: Susan E. Chapman, Public Defender, x.5806



Attachments:

Board Report

Standard Agreement Merideth Canham-Nelson