



Indigent Legal Services Parental Defense

2021 Year-End Budget Request

August 2021

Exigent Budget Request

\$72k for 2021, annualization impact of \$210K

Recruitment and retention crisis

Workforce down 33.33% (9 Attorneys, 3 vacant);
180% turnover since 2018

Losing well trained attorneys to agencies (AG, DA,
LDA and Guardian ad Litem have entry level
salary ranges from \$70K to \$80K)

Current pay structure \$45K ~ \$50K

This request increases the salary of 9 attorneys to
\$70K making their salaries competitive with other
agencies

Exigent Budget Request

Turnover Rate 180% since 2018

- 13 attorneys left in the past two years
 - 6 departed for other county or state positions
 - 3 employed by AG
 - 1 employed by Office of Guardian ad Litem
 - 3 left to practice in different fields

Risk

- Counties are mandated by statute to adequately fund indigent legal services
- Without quick action to address this issue, clients facing the potential termination of parental rights cannot be properly defended
- Court scheduling challenges



Thank you

Karen Crompton
Department Director

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