

**TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN:** Your County Administration Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Berrien County is obligated to supply attorney representation for indigent parents and appointed lawyer/guardian ad litem representation for children in child protective proceedings; and

**WHEREAS**, the current contract for these services is set to expire on December 31, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon Trial Court satisfaction with the contract group currently providing this service, a work group including the Public Defender's Office and Corporate Counsel determined that an extension with the group should be sought; and

**WHEREAS**, Attorneys Colin Banyon, Marikaye Long, Mark Donnelly, Rodney Fuller, Heidi Duncan, Ryan Wojtowicz, Nicholas Hogue, Albert Mais, and Shannon Sible, hereafter "Defense Counsel" have agreed to provide the services named for the amount of \$ 416,160 for the year 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the contract, effective from January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023, was reviewed and approved by County Corporate Counsel.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners approves the contract with Defense Counsel for the purposes of providing legal representation for indigent parents and appointed lawyer/guardian ad litem representation for children in child protective proceedings and authorizes the Chairperson of the Board to execute the contract.

**Respectfully submitted,  
BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

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Jim Curran, Chairperson

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David Vollrath, Vice-Chairperson

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Julie Wuerfel

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James R. Martin

RESOLUTION APPROVED AS TO FORM	
Administrator <u>[Signature]</u>	Date <u>11-17-22</u>
Comments Attached _____	
Corporate Counsel <u>TH</u>	Date <u>11/17/22</u>
Comments Attached _____	