

RESOLUTION NO.: 128—2024-25

TO THE HONORABLE, THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

2/3 MAJORITY – 24 VOTES

1 The District Attorney’s Office has been notified of approval for a Wisconsin Victim
2 Witness Professional Association Comfort Room grant for \$999.00. The major focus of
3 the grant is to provide better comfort when a victim or witness visits the office. The
4 department is looking to purchase a device to better communicate with visitors who are
5 non-English speaking when the language line is not available, as well as supplies to make
6 the area more comfortable and less institutional (see attached detailed list). The budget
7 adjustment is for an increase in Intergovernmental Revenue and Supplies.
8

9 NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned members of the Public Safety Committee recommend
10 adoption of the following resolution.

11 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does approve the District
12 Attorney’s Office to accept and expend a \$999 Wisconsin Victim Witness Professional Association Grant
13 for comfort room items as noted on the attached WVWP Grant – Victim Comfort Room Items document,
14 which by reference is made a part hereof, and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does approve
16 of increasing the District Attorney Intergovernmental Revenue line item by \$999 and the District Attorney
17 Supplies line item by \$999, as noted on the attached fiscal note, which by reference is made a part hereof,
18 and

19 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Clerk be directed to forward a copy of
20 this resolution to the Outagamie County District Attorney and the Outagamie County Finance Director.

21 Dated this ____ day of February 2025
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Respectfully submitted,
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Katrin Patience

Christine Lamers

Timothy Hermes

Michael Smith

Jeremy Thyssen

Duly and officially adopted by the County Board on: _____

Signed: _____
Board Chairperson

County Clerk

Approved: _____

Vetoed: _____

Signed: _____
County Executive

WVWP GRANT – VICTIM COMFORT ROOM ITEMS
COUNTY: OUTAGAMIE
CONTACT PERSON : STEPHANIE A JENS
Stephanie.Jens@da.wi.gov or (920)832-4615

Outagamie County is applying for funds to enhance our current victim/witness comfort room. All of the listed items will assist our program in providing better comfort when a victim or witness visits our office.

Our program would like to purchase a Pocketalk device to better communicate with victims/witnesses when Language Line is not an immediate option. This will be utilized when a victim comes to the courthouse and does not speak any English. This device would enable staff to have basic conversations to access how to assist them. Our county IT department assisted me in the device selection. This would be of great value to our staff, as in the last several years we have assisted more non-English speaking victims/witnesses as well as seen an increase in different types of languages. It also sends an important message that our staff value their needs and look for better ways to communicate with them through their language.

Victims/Witnesses have complained about how uncomfortable the benches are in our courtrooms and some of our seating in our comfort room, so the seat cushions will be used to provide better comfort for victims/witnesses. They are also washable. We were provided a loveseat by the county; however, it is a wipeable type material. Purchasing a washable slipcover will provide better comfort and perhaps not make the loveseat look so office like, which overall makes the comfort room more appealing (and comfortable) to those using it. Our program wants victims/witnesses to feel welcomed when they use our comfort room.

The rest of this county's requests relate to the mental health of victims/witnesses that use our comfort room. Our county has selected certain coloring books/colored pencils that relate to good vibes and mindfulness. We also have listed meditation tools and fidgets. We hope that these items will provide some emotional support while they are waiting in our office.

Outagamie County has an Amazon account, so all taxes and shipping will be covered if ordered thru the county. Taxes are waived for the phones since we are a government agency; however, we will incur shipping for that device. Below is a breakdown of requested comfort room items:

ITEM	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
Pocketalk Language Device	1	\$380	\$387 w/shipping
Seat Cushions	2 (2 in a pack)	\$40	\$80
Calming Ideas for kids	3 different kinds of products	\$22; \$25; \$20	\$67
Coloring Books – calming	30	Varies	\$225
Colored Pencils	30	\$5.40	\$165
Loveseat Slipcover	1	\$43	\$43
Fidgets	1	\$32	\$32
TOTAL			\$999.00

