



NEVADA COUNTY

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: October 25, 2022

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeff Goldman
Probation Department

SUBJECT: Resolution approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the Nevada County Superior Court in the amount of \$180,000 for the continuation of a Pretrial Program operated by the Nevada County Probation Department during the period beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023, and authorizing the chair of the board to execute the agreement.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Resolution.

FUNDING: This MOU provides for funding through the Nevada County Superior Court's Senate Bill 129 pretrial program allocation in the amount of \$180,000 for staffing needed to support the ongoing pretrial program and additional program costs. Funding is included in the FY 2022/23 budget and no budget amendment is needed. No general funds are required.

BACKGROUND: In 2019 the Nevada County Superior Court, in conjunction with Nevada County Probation, applied for and was awarded a grant through the Judicial Council of California to participate in a 2-year pretrial justice pilot program. As directed by the Legislature, the project aimed to increase the safe and efficient release of arrestees before trial; use the least restrictive monitoring practices possible while protecting public safety and ensuring court appearances; validate and expand the use of risk assessment tools; and assess any bias. The pilot time period expired on June 30, 2022.

Senate Bill 129 went into effect on August 1, 2021. It amended the Budget Act of 2021 and provides funding for the operation of ongoing court pretrial release programs of individuals booked into jail. The bill appropriates \$70 million in ongoing funding to the Judicial Council for distribution to all courts based on each county's relative proportion of the state population. The Superior Court of Nevada County is receiving a \$200,000 allocation, of which they can retain up to 30% for court operations. The legislation leans towards using the remaining funds for contracting pretrial services with county probation departments.

The purpose of SB 129 funding is to provide courts with information and resources to support: (a) judicial officers in making pretrial release decisions that impose the least restrictive conditions to address public safety and return to court; and (b) implementation of appropriate monitoring practices and provision of services for released individuals. The local entity responsible for composing the initial report to the court, monitoring those released, and providing services is Nevada County Probation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Goldman
Chief Probation Officer

Item Initiated by: Angelina Coffey, Administrative Services Officer
Approved by: Jeff Goldman, Chief Probation Officer