



Wisconsin State Public Defender

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State Public Defender Kelli Thompson's Statement on Governor Walker's Budget

Today, State Public Defender Kelli Thompson issued the following statement regarding Governor Walker's budget as it relates to the State Public Defender's Office:

Governor Walker's budget continues Wisconsin's proud tradition of supporting the constitutional requirement regarding indigent defense. The Governor's budget recognizes the proven effectiveness, accountability, and efficiency of the State Public Defender's Office. In highlighting these qualities of the Public Defender, the Governor has identified an opportunity to spend fewer taxpayer dollars while preserving the essential role of the Public Defender in the criminal justice system. And while the Governor's budget does not increase the reimbursement rate of our private attorneys, it does infuse additional funding into the underlying appropriation which means these private attorneys will be able to be paid in a more timely fashion.

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