

OFFICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY for the

COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE

Received

ROBERT N. TRACCI
COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

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PHONE: FAX: (434) 972-4072

(434) 972-4093

County of Albemarle Board of Supervisor's Office

May 15, 2019

Albemarle County Board of Supervisors 401 McIntire Road, 4th Floor Charlottesville, VA 22902

RE: Supplemental Funding Request – Additional Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Position

Dear Chair Gallaway and Board Members,

I have been highly appreciative of supplemental support provided to this office by Albemarle taxpayers. This support enables this office to attract and retain attorneys and administrative support essential to the prosecution function in the County of Albemarle.

Given the caseload of this office and increasingly sophisticated criminal threats facing our community, I have sought additional full time Assistant Commonwealth's Attorneys positions from the State Compensation Board. This effort reduces the fiscal impact associated with the County funding additional full-time positions. The State Compensation Board approved an additional Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney position in FY18 which was supplemented by the County of Albemarle. I recently learned that the State Compensation Board approved another full time Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for this office, effective July 1, 2019. I write to request that this newly-established position receive the supplemental County support provided to all other attorneys in this office.

As the Albemarle County Budget Office and County Executive's Office have indicated, I have been a steward of public funds. Upon taking office, I substantially reduced a planned renovation of this office space to focus on security-related improvements, not aesthetic ones. In FY 2016, the difference between salary funds budgeted by the County and expended by this office resulted in a savings of \$95,000. Finally, in 2018 the Office did not expend \$59,195 of budgeted salary funds. As a result, over this time period the office did not expend over \$200,000 in authorized salary funds.

The estimated salary for this position is \$75,000-\$85,000 per year. The State Compensation Board provides salary support of \$56,697 per year. Therefore, the County salary supplement for this position would be \$18,303 to \$28,303. Health and other benefits associated with this position total \$24,660-\$26,786 respectively per year. The State Compensation Board provides a \$5,704 annual appropriation for benefits, resulting in annual requested benefit support of \$18,956 to \$21,082. In summary, the total County salary/benefit supplement would be \$37,259-\$49,385. Additional operating and start-up costs of around \$5,000 associated with parking, training, office supplies, phone, dues, computer, furniture, etc. are also requested.

While this office is constitutionally distinct from the County of Albemarle, the support of Albemarle taxpayers is deeply appreciated by attorneys and the legal support personnel essential to the success of our mission.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Should you require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Robert N. Tracci

Commonwealth's Attorney

County of Albemarle

cc:

Jeff Richardson, Albemarle County Executive

Bill Letteri, Albemarle County Chief Financial Officer