



DANE COUNTY

Kathleen M. Falk
County Executive

October 5, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Dr. Alan Kalmanoff, Executive Director of the Institute for Law and Policy Planning. Dr. Kalmanoff and the ILPP recently completed a report assessing the criminal justice system in Dane County, Wisconsin, which the Dane County Board of Supervisors had requested.

The resulting report, the final version of which Dr. Kalmanoff delivered to the County Board and to my office on September 20, 2007, provided over 100 recommendations for improved efficiencies in our courts, our district attorney's office, and in our sheriff's department. The report also included a thorough assessment of the inefficiencies in our current system, and the ways these inefficiencies contribute to higher jail population rates and longer lengths of stay in the jail. In addition, Dr. Kalmanoff's study provided us with an overview of our current IT systems, the ways these systems do (and do not) work together, and ways we can go about improving integration for added efficiencies.

The report has created a road-map for us to follow in improving the workings of our criminal justice system, and promises to save us over \$3 million in the coming year by helping us end the costly practice of transporting and housing inmates in neighboring counties to deal with the crowding in our county jail. Dr. Kalmanoff's good work promises to save our taxpayers millions of dollars while providing for improved public safety, a more efficient criminal justice system, and improved delivery of justice both to defendants and victims.

I have made implementation of the ILPP study an integral part of my 2008 proposed budget, and I believe we will be using this study for many years as we develop better methods of managing our criminal justice system.

In addition, Dr. Kalmanoff brought together an excellent team of scholastic and experienced technicians to do this work. The process he lead was on time. Finally, he and his team were very professional and delightful to work with.

I recommend Dr. Kalmanoff and the ILPP as useful and knowledgeable resources for any jurisdiction seeking to deal with issues of jail crowding and criminal justice system efficiency.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Falk
Dane County Executive