

**SPARTANBURG MAGISTRATE COURT
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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have had the opportunity to work with the Institute for Law and Policy Planning for about eight months. This came about when the group was chosen by local government to study the needs of our criminal justice system. I serve on a committee made up of representatives of the various departments of local government that manage the criminal justice system for Spartanburg County.

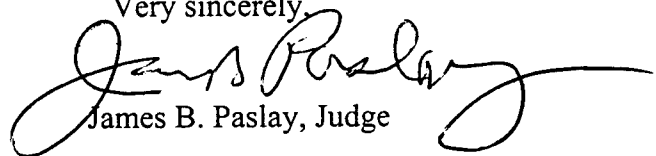
In the early period of the study, I was very skeptical that positive benefits would be produced. This was due to numerous previous studies that had been conducted over my tenure with Spartanburg County. Most of these studies were conducted by groups that did not understand the operations of a court. The results of such studies were generally shelved or ignored.

However, my experience with ILPP has been extremely positive. All of the representatives of the group have demonstrated a positive knowledge of the operations of courts. Opinions have been sought from the most knowledgeable local participants. We have been intimately involved throughout the process. Many of our suggestions have been incorporated into the recommendations.

It is easy to praise a group that listens. However, the result of the study has been a definite improvement in communications between the criminal justice agencies. This is in great part due to the direction of the discussions led by Alan Kalmanoff, ILPP's Executive Director. Accordingly, if nothing else comes from the recommendations of Kalmanoff's consultants, we are much better off than before the study began.

The next decade can be exciting for all of us. If we seize the moment and take the risk of trying the new technologies recommended by ILPP, we will be miles ahead in data exchange and utilization. Everyone involved deserves credit, but ILPP deserves recognition for producing the roadmap.

Very sincerely,


James B. Paslay, Judge