

**From:** Hinrichs, Kristine  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 30, 2008 7:23 AM  
**To:** Kovac, Nik; Dudzik, Joseph; Coggs, Milele; Bauman, Robert; Murphy, Michael  
**Cc:** MacDonald, Terry; Ledvina, John; Withers, Richard; Municipal Court Judges  
**Subject:** Budget Amendments Affecting the Municipal Court

Members of the Finance and Personnel Committee - Judge Mosley asked me to communicate the Court's concern with the impact of budget amendments 2, 4 and 5 relating to reductions in operating expenditures and to an increase in the PCA. These amendments would have a significant negative impact on Municipal Court operations and in our ability to respond to the anticipated 26% increase in case filings in 2009.

The judges and I understand the need to closely review expenditures and to make reductions wherever possible. Across the board reductions are often an efficient and effective way to accomplish this. In this case however, inclusion of the Court in these across the board reductions will unfairly penalize the Court for prudent budget decisions. You may not be aware that the Court made significant reductions prior to submitting our requested 2009 budget - the request was actually \$114,000 LESS than the target provided by the Budget Office. Additionally, our PCA was set at 5% rather than the 2% standard because we believe that we can achieve that and are committed to doing so.

We ask that you consider the impact of these amendments (and further reductions) on our operations, our ability to respond to increasing case filings, our ability to enforce the Court's judgments, and the impact on Court revenues.

As always, I am happy to respond to any questions regarding Court operations or our budgetary decisions.

Kris

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