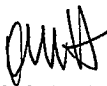


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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 27, 2007

TO: Alderman Michael D'Amato
Alderman Terry Witkowski

FROM: Kristine Hinrichs 
Chief Court Administrator

SUBJECT: Outstanding Debt Task Force Implementation – Municipal Court

I note that the Judiciary and Legislation Committee will consider reports from City departments relating to the implementation of the recommendations of the Outstanding Debt Task Force at their April 2, 2007 meeting.

The Municipal Court is happy to report the following:

- The Court has fully implemented the provisions of Wisconsin Act 305. This Act provides for the sharing of the cost of collection with all recipients of court fees and surcharges. The impact of this change will be seen in a small increase in Court revenues – as we will (essentially) forward fewer of the revenues to the recipients of these fees and surcharges. It will not be reflected in a reduction in the cost of collection commissions as they are paid from a Special Purpose Account under the control of the City Attorney's Office.
- The Court has implemented an electronic interface with the Milwaukee County Clerk's office that allows for the filing of property liens electronically. This new interface allows for the immediate enforcement of the property lien alternative and completion of the filing process within 48 hours for most eligible cases – a vast improvement over the manual process that took several months. We anticipate that this will result in an increase in collections of judgments with these enforced alternatives.
- The Court has implemented the electronic interface with the collection contractor to provide them with the drivers license number or state ID number when that information for a defendant exists within our case management system. This

allows the contractor to use that information in certifying accounts with the State of Wisconsin Tax Intercept Program (TRIP). This will substantially increase the number of accounts that they can certify for collection in this manner.

- The Court, in conjunction with the City Attorneys Office, recently completed a very successful process to retain a contractor for the collection of overdue judgments. We anticipate that this new contract will result in an increase in collections and a reduction in collection commissions.

I would be happy to respond to any questions that you or members of the Committee may have concerning the Court's efforts to collect our judgments.