

TOWN COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT

Finance Department



MEETING DATE:	June 13, 2023
PROJECT:	Consideration of an Intergovernmental Agreement Renewal between the Town and The Fourteenth Circuit Public Defender's Office for indigent representation
PROJECT MANAGER:	Chris Forster, Assistant Town Manager

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends renewal of the Fourteenth Circuit Public Defender agreement.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION: The Town currently has a multi-jurisdictional agreement with the Fourteenth Circuit Public Defenders Office which will expire on July 1, 2023. Each jurisdiction, including the Town of Bluffton, the City of Beaufort, and the Town of Port Royal each provide funds towards indigent defense services.

The renewal would include the following shared costs:

- \$137,280 split between Bluffton Port Royal and Beaufort for public defender services and administrative assistant
- \$76,164 split between Bluffton Port Royal and Beaufort for public defender services at bond hearings
- \$50,000 split between Bluffton Port Royal and Beaufort for additional public defender to help with case load.
- \$1,200 split between Bluffton and Port Royal for supplies

NEXT STEPS: Authorizing the Town Manager to sign the renewal agreement with the Fourteenth Circuit Public Defender's Office.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Intergovernmental Agreement
2. Resolution
3. Motion