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Department of Justice

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February 20, 2023

The Honorable Susan Christensen
Chief Justice, Iowa Supreme Court
Judicial Building
LOCAL

Mr. W. Charles Smithson
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol
LOCAL

Ms. Meghan Nelson
Chief Clerk of the House
State Capitol
LOCAL

Re: Annual Report for 2022 for the Iowa Prosecutor Intern Program

Dear Chief Justice Christensen, Secretary Smithson, and Chief Clerk Nelson:

In accordance with Iowa Code section 13.2(1)(l), our office is pleased to submit this report on the operation of the Iowa Prosecutor Intern Program during 2022.

Since 1977, Iowa's law schools, county attorney offices, and the Iowa Attorney General's Office have partnered to provide second and third-year law students the opportunity to serve as prosecutor interns around the state. Students in the program become involved in all aspects of a county attorney's responsibilities including courtroom experience. Past interns have litigated simple misdemeanor cases, argued in suppression hearings, second-chaired trials, and worked with the county attorneys to research complex legal issues.

To become eligible for the internship, a student must complete either a certification course at the University of Iowa College of Law or pay tuition and receive course credit through Drake University Law School. In either case, the student is under the supervision of a faculty supervisor during his or her summer internship. In addition to training and intern supervision, the in-state law schools provide administration assistance to help match county requests for interns with students interested in the program. Then the respective county governments hire and pay eligible interns who work in the county attorney offices. Summer internships are a major component of the program but some counties retain interns during parts of the academic year as well.

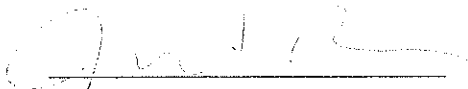
Each summer as a part of the internship, the Iowa Attorney General's Office hosts a day-long seminar in Des Moines. In previous years, the interns spoke with state and federal prosecutors, Iowa assistant attorneys general, and district court and appellate judges about the different avenues of public service available post-graduation. Previous years have included tours of the Polk County Jail and the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation Criminalistics Laboratory.

In summer 2022, we took the interns to the simulator in the Polk County Sheriff's Office where they were able to experience situations that law enforcement officers face. After the simulator, we took a tour of the facility. We then went to the Polk County jail and did a tour. Finally, we ended the day with a tour of the DCI laboratory in Ankeny.

For 2022, this office again provided a partial reimbursement of summer prosecutor intern wages for counties who submitted applications. This year, six counties qualified for partial reimbursement of intern wages: Clinton, Johnson, Story, Calhoun, Jackson and Cerro Gordo counties. It is anticipated that the reimbursement program will continue in the summer of 2023, with funding provided by the Iowa Attorney General's asset forfeiture fund administered pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 809A.

Just as it has over the forty years, the Iowa Prosecutor Intern Program makes important contributions to the criminal justice system. The program was again a success in 2022 and we look forward to continuing it in 2023.

Sincerely,



Jessica A. Reynolds
PATC
Iowa Attorney General's Office

CC: Tina Palmer, Financial Manager, Iowa Department of Justice