

## WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707-7882

For Immediate Release:

August 23, 2019

Contact: State Representative Warren Petryk State Representative Romaine Quinn State Representative Rob Summerfield State Representative Rob Stafsholt (608) 266-0660 (608) 266-2519 (608) 266-1194 (608) 266-7683

## Local Legislators Show Support for Additional Assistant District Attorneys for Dunn County

Madison – Today local area legislators that represent portions of Dunn County sent a letter to the Secretary Designee of the Department of Administration asking them to reallocate back two Assistant District Attorney positions that were included in the state budget but vetoed by the Governor.

"Earlier in this session, we chose to make improving our criminal justice system a priority in our area which has seen an increase in caseloads," said Representative Warren Petryk (R-Eleva). "That is why the State Budget allocated two more Assistant District Attorney positions for Eau Claire County. It was very disappointing to find out that the Governor used his line-item veto to possibly shift one of these much-needed positions for our area to other parts of the state."

"As cases continue to pile up and become more complicated, I want to make sure that Dunn County has the proper tools to protect our families back home," said Representative Stafsholt (R-New Richmond). "With members on the other side of the aisle voting against this measure, and with Governor Evers veto back in July, I hope that the current administration can see the value that these positions can bring to Dunn County."

"After speaking with DA Andrea Nodolf, I was happy to submit a budget motion for these positions back in May," said Representative Stafsholt. "With our area's growing meth epidemic, coupled with an expanding population base, we need to act now to keep our communities and citizens safe."

"Over the past two sessions I have been in office, I have advocated for extra District Attorneys for Dunn County, so I was pleased to see two extra positions included in the State Budget," stated Rep. Summerfield (R-Bloomer). "However, I was incredibly disappointed to see Governor Evers veto this provision. The meth epidemic in the Chippewa Valley has touched countless lives. Diverting necessary resources away from the Chippewa Valley towards Madison and Milwaukee will only exacerbate an already tenuous situation. I am proud to stand with my legislative colleagues today to advocate that these DA positions be used where they were intended: Dunn County."

A copy of the letter can be found <u>here</u>.