

OFFICE OF

THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

PLACERVILLE OFFICE

4327 Golden Center Dr, #1
Placerville, CA 95667
Tel: (530) 621 6440
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EL DORADO COUNTY

RICHARD D. MEYER
PUBLIC DEFENDER

LAKE TAHOE OFFICE

1360 Johnson Blvd, #106
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
Tel: (530) 573 3115
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Please reply to 9

Please reply to :

Alpine County Superior Court
Attention: Margaret Sackrider-White, CEO
P.O. Box 518
Markleeville, California 96120

Dear Ms. Sackrider-White,

My name is Rick Meyer and I am the Chief Public Defender for El Dorado County. I have been authorized by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors to submit a bid on behalf of our office to contract with Alpine County to provide Public Defender Services.

In response to the specific inquiries contained in your "Invitation to Bid for Public Defender Contract" please be advised of the following:

1. Legal education of our attorneys: Our office has a total of fourteen lawyers, four in our South Lake Tahoe Office and ten in Placerville. All of our lawyers are in good standing with the California State Bar and have at least five years experience practicing criminal law. Most of our attorneys have been practicing criminal/juvenile law exclusively for more than ten years. Our entire staff would be available to fulfill our obligations to Alpine County. However, my long time associate, Ken Bonham, and I would be specifically assigned to handle the Alpine County caseload. Mr. Bonham and I have each been active members of the California State Bar for more than twenty-five years. Should you require the specific educational backgrounds of our attorneys we would be happy to provide that information.
2. Relevant criminal and juvenile experience: All of our attorneys have extensive experience in both criminal and juvenile matters. Mr. Bonham and I have each handled hundreds of felony, misdemeanor, juvenile conservatorship, and dependency matters.
3. Continuing Education in Criminal/Juvenile Law in last 2 years: All of our attorneys regularly attend continuing education courses in criminal/juvenile law and are up to date with respect to the MCLE requirements of the State Bar. Our office has an ample budget for the continuing education of our attorneys and investigators.
4. Representative writing sample: I have attached a copy of a Due Process Motion I wrote in a cold case prosecution for multiple murder.
5. Disclosure of any discipline imposed by State Bar or sanction imposed by a court: None of our attorneys have been disciplined by the State Bar nor sanctioned by a court.
6. Accessibility to Alpine County clients/courts: We have sufficient staff to of 2

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accommodate the Alpine County court schedule as outlined in your Request For Bid letter. Moreover, I am confident that with the number of staff available in our office, we could adjust to most any scheduling changes that the Alpine County Court may deem necessary. With respect to access to the clients, our office in South Lake Tahoe is located in the same complex as the El Dorado Jail where in custody Alpine County defendants are housed.

With respect to the other points raised in your letter, I would note the following:

- The performance expectations outlined in your letter are appropriate and acceptable including appearances at arraignments.
- The proposed annual fee of \$50,000 is acceptable;
- The proposal to address compensation for complex matters and requests for investigative/expert assistance on an ad hoc basis is acceptable;
- The proposal to negotiate appointments on any appellate matters which the Public Defender may accept on a separate basis is acceptable.

In discussing this matter with the El Dorado County CAO, she wanted to make certain that this agreement did not require El Dorado County to provide conflict counsel in the event that my office was unable to represent an Alpine County client due to a conflict of interest. It is my understanding that this agreement does not require El Dorado County to provide conflict counsel.

We appreciate the opportunity to bid on this contract. I am confident that in light of the geographic proximity of our counties and the mutual respect shared between all of the parties, this will be a productive and satisfying arrangement for both Alpine and El Dorado Counties.

Respectfully,

Rick Meyer, Public Defender

Date: October 13, 2010