



MARION COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER AGENCY

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February 7, 2008

Marshawn Wolley
Indiana Democratic African American Caucus, Indianapolis President
402 N. Meridian Street, Apt. 20 A
Indianapolis, IN 46204

To the Members of IDACC:

As Chairman of the Marion County Public Defender's Agency Board, I am pleased to know that concerned citizens have both questions and input regarding the Agency. It is true that Dave Cook has done an outstanding job as the leader of the Agency. We hope to select a new Chief Public Defender that continues his legacy and maintains his tireless commitment to indigent defense.

The issue of public defenders that maintain a private practice is currently being reviewed by the Agency. The community's thoughts on the issue are vast and diverse. It is an issue that is critical to the future of the Agency. Dave Cook has fought hard to increase the salaries of the staff and attorneys that serve our agency. He has also implemented policies that have allowed the Agency to retain high quality attorneys so that the under served are served by the very best.

Our Agency serves citizens that have been determined by law to be indigent and therefore unable to pay for an attorney. We represent those citizens without consideration of their race, gender, religious beliefs, age or sexual orientation. To date, the Agency does not maintain statistics regarding these classifications. The Agency believes that all citizens determined to be indigent by law deserve and shall receive competent and effective legal representation. Many of the attorneys in the Agency are considered to be the best criminal defense attorneys in Indianapolis. We serve in the best interest of our clients and work to obtain the best possible result given the facts and the law.

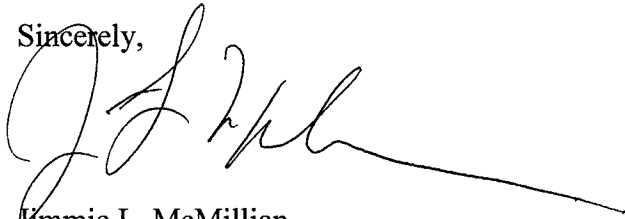
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We welcome the opportunity to dialogue with IDAAC regarding the excellent work performed by the Marion County Public Defender's Agency and the important role that the Agency plays in the community. We are certainly willing to speak to the members of IDAAC regarding the Agency's commitment to indigent defense.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JL McMillian", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jimmie L. McMillian
Marion County Public Defender Agency
Board Chairman

JLM/tmh