

**October 12, 2021
ITEM 14.A.**

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 24, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposal for Pretrial Program Services for Indian River County

FROM: Joseph E. Flescher, Chairman
Commissioner, District 2

BACKGROUND

St. Lucie County has a Pretrial Program which provides a number of different services, such as GPS monitoring, curfew and house arrest compliance, establishing exclusion zones, and drug and alcohol testing. The pretrial program is utilized by judges as an alternative to having a defendant spend time before trial in jail. St. Lucie County provides this service to Okeechobee County and Martin County.

On May 14, 2019, the Board authorized the County Attorney's Office to work with the Indian River County Sheriff's Office and the St. Lucie County Pretrial Program on gathering a more definitive cost estimate for providing services in Indian River County. St. Lucie County submitted a draft proposal, however, with the lack of support of the program at that time from the Indian River County Sheriff's Office, the program did not move forward.

On May 28, 2021, the Indian River County Public Safety Council for Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse voted to support adopting a pre-trial services program in Indian River County. St. Lucie County has submitted the attached new proposal, which sets an annual cost of \$250,744.55 to run the program. The Indian River County Sheriff's Office is now supportive of the program and is willing to split the costs evenly between the County and the Sheriff's Office.

St. Lucie County has indicated that it would take about 4 to 5 months to get the pre-trial program up and running and would require initial funding of approximately \$35,800.00,

which is included in the annual price, to purchase program specific equipment and background investigation expenses.

I would like to see if my fellow Commissioners would be willing to support moving forward with establishing a pre-trial services program here in Indian River County.

ATTACHMENT

Proposal for Pretrial Program Services for Indian River County