

FINANCE COMMITTEE ADDENDUM
Meeting Rm. 1, Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana
Thursday, March 10, 2005 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Brendan McGinty
Members: Avery, Bensyl, Betz, Doenitz, Gross, O'Connor, Tapley,
Wysocki

ADDENDUM

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
X. <u>STATE'S ATTORNEY</u>	
b. Request for Approval of Additional Senior Assistant State's Attorney to provide legal counsel for the Nursing Home and Regional Planning Commission	1-4

Champaign County Administrative Services
1776 E. Washington St.
Urbana, IL 61802
217-384-3776

Barbara Wysocki
County Board Chair
Debra Busey and Denny Inman
County Administrators

Julia R. Rietz
State's Attorney
email: jrietz@co.champaign.il.us



Courthouse
101 East Main Street
P. O. Box 785
Urbana, Illinois 61801
Phone (217) 384-3733
Fax (217) 384-3816

**Office of
State's Attorney
Champaign County, Illinois**

March 3, 2005

Deb Busey
County Administrative Services Department
1776 E. Washington
Urbana, IL 61802

RE: Addition Third Civil Attorney

Dear Mrs. Busey,

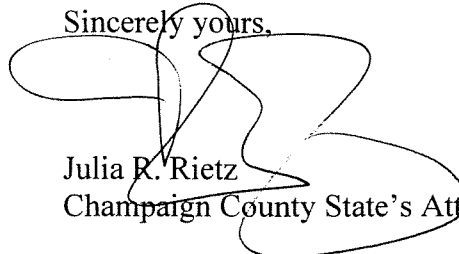
I am writing in support of the addition of a third Civil Attorney, to be funded from the Nursing Home and Regional Planning Commission. It is my understanding that, due to the increased need for legal advise and counsel for these departments, that the departments are interested in coming to a joint agreement on funding and sharing a full time civil attorney through the State's Attorneys Office. As State's Attorney, I am fully in support of such an agreement.

The Nursing Home and Regional Planning Commission together are responsible for the majority of the county's employees. These departments must comply with complex legal issues as diverse as Medicare and Medicaid funding, health privacy regulations, collections, federal grant terms, and home loans. The future year promises to be a challenging one for these departments, with the comprehensive zoning review underway and the move to the new nursing home facility on the horizon. A third civil attorney on staff is necessary to allow us to provide in house counsel on these complex issues.

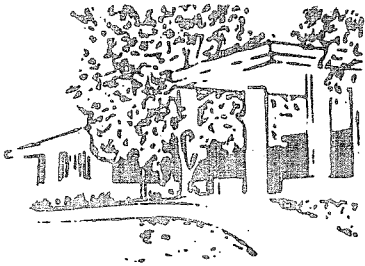
Of course, while this plan would reduce reliance on outside counsel, the State's Attorney's Office would continue to rely on outside counsel on occasion. For example, most tort matters, bond matters, workers compensation matters, and matters relating the nursing home's certificate of need, as well as several specific projects which have already begun under outside counsel, would remain assigned to outside counsel.

I look forward to moving forward on this proposal and coming to a mutually acceptable plan with the Nursing Home, Regional Planning Department, and your office. Feel free to contact me with any other information you may need.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julia R. Rietz', written over the typed name and title.

Julia R. Rietz
Champaign County State's Attorney




Champaign County Nursing Home

1701 East Main
Urbana, Illinois 61802-2836

Phone (217) 384-3784
Fax (217) 337-0120

TO: Deb Busey

FROM: Jeremy Maupin, Administrator 

DATE: 3/12/05

RE: Legal Representation

We have had conversations over the last couple of years regarding the increased need for legal counsel or advice for departments like the nursing home. With an employment base of 250 employees or more coupled with the complex operational and regulatory concerns, we are interested in funding either a full or part-time attorney through the state's attorney's office. We would obviously have to come to an agreement on costs and time-sharing but I am confident that our operation can come up with a mutually accepted plan. I would love to explore the option with yourself and or the state's attorney at your earliest convenience. Thank you for being open to such a discussion.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY  REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

March 3, 2005

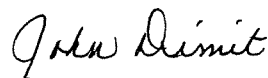
Deb Busey
Administrative Services
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E. Washington St.
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Deb:

Up until 1983, the County States Attorney provided all legal service for the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission. That year, the Commission began operating several economic development revolving loan funds. With the States Attorney's permission, the Commission retained specialized private legal counsel to assist us with that commercial lending program, insuring proper documentation and proper securitization of our loans. Then, in 1996, the States Attorneys office further required the Commission to obtain separate legal services that effectively eliminated nearly all legal service from the County office. This has led to extensive legal expenses for the Commission which we have hopes of curtailing.

To that end, the Commission is very interested in exploring alternative arrangements whereby the States Attorney's office is re-engaged in providing most of our legal needs. The commercial lending program still requires specialized areas of practice that would necessitate retention of private counsel. However, in the area of labor law, public corporate law, and review of our programmatic contracts, we would prefer to work collaboratively with the rest of County government. This would introduce major savings for the Commission, which in turn contains County costs related to the Commission, and more importantly, would introduce additional consistency in very critical areas such as collective bargaining approaches.

Very truly yours,



John Dimit

JD:pjl