

**LANCASTER COUNTY****REQUEST FOR MEMBERSHIPS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, SCHOOLS,  
CONFERENCES, TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE****FY 21 BUDGET****Business Unit Name: Public Defender****Business Unit: 6250**

<b>NAME &amp; POSITION</b>	<b>EXPLANATION &amp; JUSTIFICATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>OBJECT CODE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Public Defender and 22.5 Chief Deputies and Deputies	This line item includes costs for travel, lodging and meals for witnesses in public defender cases. It also includes funds for out of state training programs for staff.	Meals	64710	\$ 1,600
		Lodging	64715	\$ 9,300
		Airfare	64720	\$ 8,200
	We have continuing legal education requirements. Some necessary programs are only offered out of state. The number of new attorneys in our office has increased in the past five years due to turnover and growth. Historically, the office has provided each new attorney with trial advocacy training in their first three years. These are intense, specialized programs. There are no public defender trial advocacy training programs in Nebraska, requiring us to send our attorneys elsewhere. We are sending attorneys to a program called Gideon's Promise. This program not only teaches trial training, but is designed specifically for public defenders. Gideon's Promise has follow-up sessions to not only continue to build courtroom skills, but also help retain public defenders. There is an added cost that is spread over three years, but we feel that Gideon's Promise has proven its value. There is an acclaimed HBO documentary about some of the participants called Gideon's Army, which I recommend viewing. This program helps young attorneys overcome some of the stress of working as a public defender while improving courtroom performance. Sending our attorneys to these programs is critical as we have replaced some of our most experienced attorneys. It is essential that we find, train, and retain quality attorneys to keep providing the strong representation for which the Lancaster County Public Defender's Office is known.	Enrollment Fees & Tuition	65670	\$ 17,500
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 36,600</b>