

18-B PUBLIC DEFENSE PAYMENTS - 1172

ABOUT THIS ACCOUNT

The Public Defender (A1170) and Alternate Public Defender (A1171) are the primary source of legal representation for the indigent in Albany County. However, there are instances, primarily due to legal conflicts of interest, in which the two offices are unable to represent an individual.

In those instances of conflict, Article 18-B, section 722-b of New York State County Law provides for payment of private or assigned counsel for those individuals charged with a crime or appealing a criminal conviction that are financially unable to obtain their own legal representation.

In addition, private counsel is also assigned in certain Family Court and Surrogate Court proceedings as ordered by the judge of that court.

This account is administered jointly by the Departments of Law and Management and Budget.

After a period in which use of and payments to private counsel declined, expenditures have begun to rise again. Analysis of this trend has begun and will be completed after the end of 2009.

Account	Description	2008 Expended	2009 Adjusted	2010 Proposed	2009-10 Change	2009-10 Percent Change
Appropriations						
18-B Public Defense Payments -(1172)						
	Contractual Expenses	\$445,608	\$415,000	\$710,000	\$295,000	71.1%
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Appropriations		\$445,608	\$415,000	\$710,000	\$295,000	71.1%
County Share		\$445,608	\$415,000	\$710,000	\$295,000	71.1%