



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Office of the Director

Washington, D.C. 20531

April 13, 2011

The Honorable Jeffrey A. Kremers
Chief Judge
Milwaukee County Community Justice Council
901 North 9th Street, Room 609
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Dear Chief Judge Kremers:

Thank you for submitting a letter of interest to participate in the Bureau of Justice Assistance's (BJA's) Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI). BJA, in partnership with the JRI Steering Committee, which includes our technical assistance providers as well as our partners at the Pew Center on the States, carefully reviewed your letter of interest and conducted a detailed assessment of your jurisdiction's readiness to engage in justice reinvestment.

We are pleased to inform you that Milwaukee County has been accepted into the next stage of Phase I JRI during which your site will receive targeted technical assistance. As a Phase I site, Milwaukee County must complete the next step in this process: establishing a foundation for your justice reinvestment strategy and agreeing on specific milestones to measure your progress. This initial step includes: identifying the participants in your jurisdiction's justice reinvestment working group or task force; developing an agreement on the milestones which you commit to pursue regarding your data collection and analysis strategy; and planning for any announcement or roll out of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative. These steps will be critical to your ability to continue with JRI throughout Phase I. Your technical assistance provider will help with the development of the strategy and BJA will review it for approval by July 31, 2011. You will also be asked to report periodically on your attainment of the established milestones. Peggy Burke from the Center for Effective Public Policy is the technical assistance provider who will work with you and members of your justice reinvestment team. She can be reached at pburke@cepp.com or (301) 589-9383.

Congratulations, and thank you for your interest in justice reinvestment. I wish you all the best as you pursue this important work.

Sincerely,

James H. Burch, II
Acting Director