



# PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Macomb County Prosecutor seeks grant writer to generate \$250,000+**

Mount Clemens, MI - Macomb County Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido asked the County Commission to fund a professional to bring in grant revenue of over \$250,000 at a cost not to exceed \$35,000. Lucido wants to expand requests for state and federal grants. The prosecutor's 2023 budget request seeks approval of a professional services contract for a part-time person without fringe benefits to do "grant writing," budget and spending analysis, and strategic planning.

"Macomb County is not getting its fair share of grant dollars and that needs to change," said Macomb County Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido. "The squeaky wheel gets the grant, and Macomb County has been too quiet for too long."

The state and federal government have complicated systems for finding and applying for grants. Lucido says a professional is needed to act as a documentation specialist and be responsible for researching applicable grants, gathering the necessary documentation, completing the complex application process, and fulfilling other requirements set by the funding agencies.

The office currently receives grants from the Automobile Theft Prevention Authority, the Michigan Crime Victims Compensation Act, the Federal Cooperative Reimbursement Child Support Collection Grant, Michigan Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Fund, and a grant for a Families Against Narcotics (FAN) Drug Diversion Program called Redirect.

But Lucido said the county is leaving too many grants on the table. Grants the office would seek include those on the topics of addressing hate crimes, crisis intervention regarding gun violence, and violence intervention strategies, among others that might be available in the future. Lucido wants a grant writer to seek grants to help fulfill the responsibilities to the special treatment courts, and about environmental matters, too, if such grants are available.

If approved by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, a part-time professional would be contracted to perform grant writing and other services. Lucido says the revenue generated will greatly exceed the cost, but agreed that if it does not, then the contract would not be renewed.

Lucido's requested 2023 budget percentage increase for the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office is less than the 2023 requested budget percentage increases for the Macomb County Finance Department, Office of the County Executive, MSU Extension, and IT Department. The Commission is scheduled to vote on the 2023 budget in November.

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