

STATE OF WASHINGTON

## OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Insurance Building, PO Box 43113 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3113 • (360) 902-0555

November 2, 2020

Dawn Marie Rubio State Court Administrator Administrative Office of the Courts P.O. Box 41170 Olympia, WA 98504-1170

Dear Administrator Rubio:

Pursuant to enactment of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (P.L. 116-136), I hereby allocate \$9,760,000 to the Administrative Office of the Courts from General Fund-Federal (Coronavirus Relief Funds) to resolve COVID-19 related rent disputes.

This allocation is provided to establish and operate a pilot Eviction Resolution Program (ERP) in seven counties, which collectively experience more than 80 percent of eviction filings throughout the state. The counties include Snohomish, King, Pierce, Thurston, Clark, Yakima, and Spokane.

The ERP will resolve disputes involving non-payment of rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a collaborative effort that will bring together the superior courts, local legal aid housing justice projects, community-based dispute resolution programs, and entities administering federal, state, local, and philanthropic rent assistance funds.

According to guidance issued by the federal government on the Coronavirus Relief Funds, for a cost to be considered to have been incurred, the performance or delivery must take place by December 30, 2020, but payment can occur up to 90 days afterwards.

The Office of Financial Management has approved this allocation in Unanticipated Receipt #0148. Using expenditure authority code 7Z0, please submit the required allotment amendment packet to the Office of Financial Management using the "Operating Allocation" packet type.

We appreciate your continued efforts in responding to this health crisis. If you have any questions, please contact OFM Budget Operations at (360) 902-0555 or <u>budget.operations@ofm.wa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

David Schumacher Director

cc: Charlie Gavigan, Staff Coordinator, House Appropriations Committee Michael Bezanson, Staff Coordinator, Senate Ways and Means Committee Nona Snell, Assistant Director for Budget, Office of Financial Management Bryce Andersen, Senior Budget Assistant, Office of Financial Management Ramsay Radwan, Director, Administrative Office of the Courts Jim Bamberger, Director, Office of Civil Legal Aid