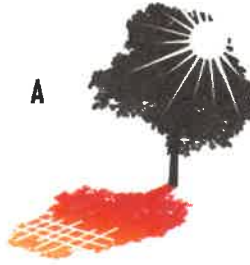


A L A M O S A C O U N T Y



September 29, 2022

Heather Brooks, City Manager
City of Alamosa
300 Hunt Ave
Alamosa, CO 81101

Heather,

Alamosa County would like to thank you and the council for their hard work and support during the recall election of former District Attorney, Alonzo Payne. Your efforts helped to bring closure to a very ugly period in in the San Luis Valley. We all are looking forward to a stronger and more just judicial system.

District Attorney Anne Kelly, having been in office less that a month, presented her 2023 budget to the San Luis Valley Board of County Commissioners on Monday, September 26th. We anticipated that the budget would be increased in order to bring the office back into compliance, begin to serve the citizens of the Valley, and address the backlog of cases that were left after her predecessor departed. In order to do this, she must radically overhaul the office, adding at least four attorneys beyond the five that the office has traditionally employed, along with increased support staff. And, due to the unfortunate reputation of the 12th Judicial District Attorney's office, her employment offers to good, capable attorneys and staff must be backed by better salaries and benefits. Alamosa County is working with DA Kelly to address the need for better benefits. That leaves salaries and operating capital.

The DA's office, which is statutorily funded by the counties of the district in which they serve, has requested a 2023 budget of \$2,333,738. The counties portion of this budget is \$2,031,870. Based on population, Alamosa County's allocation increased 89% to \$731,473. In comparison, the 2022 budget was \$1,272,777 and Alamosa County's allocation was \$385,663.

The Alamosa County Commissioners want to give our citizens the justice they deserve which requires funding. Due to the cost of the special election and, now the 2023 budget request, we would like to ask the City of Alamosa for \$40,000 to assist Alamosa County partially fund the District Attorney for the 2023 budget cycle. We realize your budget is very close to being complete and appreciate that you would consider this request.

We believe your investment in the District Attorney's office is an investment in our future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roni Wisdom".

Roni Wisdom, County Administrator

Cc/file