



**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF LASSEN**

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MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Lassen County Board of Supervisors

From: David B. Evans
Assistant District Attorney

Date: September 27, 2018

Subject: Request for funds to contract with Expert Witness

Gentlemen:

The Lassen County District Attorney's Office has charged Ms. Heather Raglen with Penal Code 664 and Penal Code 187(a), attempted murder. (CR034748) A jury trial is scheduled for October 22, 23, 24, and 25, 2018. Because of the seriousness of the crime, the Prosecution believes it is imperative to contract with a neuroscientist to determine intent due to a defense of intoxication. According to the expert witness, Dr. Sean Evans (no relation to the ADA), a full day of testimony, with flight round trip from San Diego, rental car and one night of hotel accommodations would cost \$6,500. Therefore, we are requesting \$6,500 from the General Fund to pay for expert witnesses costs.

During the 2018/2019 fiscal year, the Board of Supervisors approved the departments' budget of \$6996 in witness fees; however, by the date of this memo, only \$4,330.40 of the line item remains (130 0431 3001602). Additionally, the witness fees in the DA budget was initially earmarked to cover general witness fees throughout the fiscal year. We did not request expert witness fees within the original budget, as we could not anticipate the need, or the cost, of future cases.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David B. Evans", is written over a horizontal line.

David B. Evans, Assistant District Attorney

cc: CAO, CC, file