## Laura Conover

Pima County Attorney



## AGENDA MATERIAL DATE 3/19/24 ITEM NO. RA17

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## **MEMORANDUM**

Pima County Board of Supervisors, County Administrator, and Clerk of the Board TO:

FROM: Laura Conover, County Attorney

March 25, 2024 DATE:

Pima County Attorney's Office Budget RE:

Madame Chair, Members of the Board, County Administrator Lesher, and Clerk Manriquez,

Thank you for making the time at your last Board meeting to discuss last year's 2.4-million-dollar sweep of the PCAO budget and the lingering and persisting consequences to retention, recruitment, and public safety.

I am very pleased and grateful to report that County Administrator Lesher has since directed County HR to work with us to address our Class and Comp Department Appeal (possibly/hopefully the last open from Phase II for the County), fixing the internal pay structure that threatens retention of the group of veteran attorneys we have hired since 2021. This is fantastic news that your County's prosecutors and legal advisors have been patiently awaiting. It should help us retain them, and equally important, it allows us to proceed with our hiring cycle. To be specific, we are working on three offer letters to three new additional veteran attorneys with 51 years of legal experience among them.

There is a crucial caveat. The County Administrator warns that these internal remediations and external hiring must come from our budget. This will require restoration of the 2.4-million-dollar sweep. To that end, we will work to place an item on the April 2, 2024 agenda to ask the Board formally for that restoration.

Thank you for prioritizing public safety and thank you for valuing \*your\* and your community's law firm.

Respectfully, County Attorney Conover