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**Maggie Fleming**  
District Attorney

March 17, 2022

Dear Measure Z Committee,

The Humboldt County Court Appointed Attorney Program (HCAAP), run by the County Administrative Office (CAO), is a vital component of our community's public safety infrastructure. The program ensures private attorneys represent people who cannot afford one, and without that service we could not move forward prosecuting cases involving some of our most serious crimes, including homicide, sexual assault and crimes against children.

This program appoints private attorneys to represent indigent clients when the Public Defender and Conflict Counsel declare conflicts in cases. The HCAAP has proven its value, but the need for improvement remains. At times the County has been unable to appoint attorneys in a timely manner, thereby delaying justice and reducing the efficiency of the DA's Office. With additional staff support, the CAO would have more ability to ensure the timely appointment of qualified, reliable attorneys in every case. This proposed improvement represents an efficient way to accomplish the intent of Measure Z.

I therefore write in support CAO's Measure Z application for an Administrative Analyst position to support the HCAAP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maggie Fleming". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maggie Fleming  
Humboldt County District Attorney