



**County of McHenry
County Administration**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**McHenry County Appeals to the State of Illinois to Restore
Funding for Probation Services**

WOODSTOCK, IL – McHenry County officials are announcing that they have requested Governor Patrick Quinn and members of the Illinois Legislature to fully restore the funding for McHenry County's Probation and Court Services Department.

In August, the County received notification that the State of Illinois was cutting funding for its Probation and Court Services Department for the 2010 fiscal year by \$388,743, compared to \$904,053 that the state provided in the 2009 fiscal year due to the State of Illinois budget shortfall.

McHenry County Board Chairman Kenneth D. Koehler has expressed concern over the issue. "Funding of Probation and Court Services is a statutory obligation of the State of Illinois. By shifting the funding of these services to Illinois Counties, this increases the financial burden already placed on counties to fund probation services. The responsibilities of the probation and court services are integral part of public safety and the further financial burden clearly compromises public safety if the system is overwhelmed."

Chairman Koehler further stated, "McHenry County has been able to cover this expense for the current fiscal year but this decrease in state allocation is not fiscally sustainable to meet program needs for future years."

McHenry County is joining other Illinois counties and Probation and Court Services Departments in asking Governor Quinn and members of the State Legislature work to ensure that the State meets its statutory obligation to fund these programs.

For more information, please contact Adam Lehmann at (815)334-0309 or alehmann@co.mchenry.il.us.

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"McHenry County government is dedicated to providing the highest quality services for the health, safety, and welfare of the County's residents and communities. We foster representative and transparent government to ensure social, economic and environmental justice.