MATHIAS H. HECK. JR. Prosecuting Attorney

DEBRA B. ARMANINI First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

APPELLATE DIVISION Andrew T. French, Chief

CIVIL DIVISION Ward C. Barrentine, Chief



Mathias H. Heck, Jr. Montgomery County Prosecuting Attorney CRIMINAL DIVISION Daniel J. Brandt, Chief Lynda A. Dodd, Deputy Chief

FRAUD AND ECONOMIC CRIMES UNIT Anthony D. Schoen, Supervising Attorney

JUVENILE DIVISION Kelly D. Madzey, Chief

VICTIM/WITNESS DIVISION Sandra M. Hunt, Director

April 25, 2023

Ohio House Finance Committee Ohio Senate Finance Committee

Re: Ohio Crime Victim Justice Center Funding Support

Dear Members of the Senate and House Finance Committees:

I am familiar with the work performed by the Crime Victim Justice Center (OCVJC). I recently referred a case to them to assist in advocating for a victim and was gratified that the Center promptly responded as requested.

My office and OCVJC have collaborated on a few other cases to assist victims in our county.

With the passage of House Bill 343 late last year, it is expected that more victims will desire the assistance of an attorney to assist the prosecutor in advocating for their rights. OCVJC could provide that assistance.

Therefore, I support state funding for OCVJC so that victims of crime in our state have access to free, high quality legal representation to ensure that their constitutional and statutory rights are protected. I hope you will join me in supporting OCVJC.

Very truly yours,

MATHIAS H. HECK, JR PROSECUTING ATTORNE

MHH:crs