

Mark Anderson ARPA Fund Testimony

Good morning Senator White,

I understand you're under a time crunch for this information. I wasn't able to attend today's committee as I never received an invitation.

The sheriffs discussed ARPA funds in our meeting last week after learning about our eligibility. Three agencies identified, Chittenden, Orange, and Windham, are county operated facilities that do not have any air handling systems. We don't have estimates at this point to quantify how much but any consideration for this would be welcome. A wild guess would be approximately \$200,000 per system, but I suspect the Assistant Judges' work for the courthouses might provide insight.

As we previously discussed, my department has been working with DCF regarding transitional housing for youth in their custody that have historically ended up for hours or days in hospitals, police department conference rooms, hotels, and other less-than-ideal locations while they await bed-space in a contract or state run facility. We have also worked with the Department of Mental Health whose patients have been held in emergency rooms awaiting an available bed. There is a facility in Brattleboro which my department has previously looked at which could provide a southern region housing arrangement to support the Agency of Human Services or other state entities in need. The current grand list value is \$810,000. I am working to discuss a possible purchase from the current owner.

Thank you for your consideration,

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