

May 7, 2025

Dear Members of the Public Safety Conference Committee,

As the legislature works to reconcile final public safety and judiciary provisions, the Minnesota Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (MACDL) urges you to adopt two critical items that directly impact the integrity, efficiency, and fairness of Minnesota's legal system.

1. Fully Fund Justice Partner Access – House Article 1, Sec. 2(d) and Sec. 19

A \$4 million investment in Justice Partner Access will provide necessary funding to provide better and more equitable access to case information. It is a critical step in allowing attorneys information to better represent their clients.

2. Clarify Statute Post-State v. Johnston – Senate Article 3, Sec. 3

The decision in *State v. Johnston* introduced confusion that jeopardizes the consistent application of criminal law across Minnesota. The Senate language offers a clear, targeted solution that aligns with original legislative intent and protects Constitutional due process rights.

Thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely, on behalf of MACDL,

Hannah Martin
Legislative Chair
MACDL