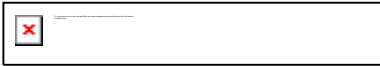


## Blakely, Heidi

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**From:** noreply@formstack.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 11:16 AM  
**To:** Web Master; County Board Public Comment  
**Subject:** PublicComment

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### Formstack Submission For: **PublicComment**

Submitted at 10/18/23 11:15 AM

**Meeting Date:** 11/07/23

**Meeting:** Judicial and Public Safety Committee

**Name:** Margaret McQuaid

**Organization:**

**Address:** 1 Wheaton Center  
Wheaton, IL 60187

**Daytime Phone:** (312) 799-0759

**Subject:** Public Defender Appointments for Involuntary Commitment Proceedings

**Comment:** The Public Defender's Office is not the best resource for court appointed attorneys for mental health civil commitment proceedings. Their case loads are large and there are not enough attorneys to cover everything, especially post-PFA. Using Public Defender attorneys takes away necessary attention from the criminal clients. The County should look into having the Office of the Public Guardian or other court-appointed counsel handle the cases, so that the mental health clients get the representation they deserve.

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