



TO: Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Chair Ron Latz
Representative Leigh Finke

FROM: David Valentini, President
Jill Oleisky, Executive Director
Minnesota Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (MACDL)

CC: House Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Chair Jamie Becker-Finn

DATE: February 22, 2024

RE: MACDL support for SF 3712/HF 3607 provision to increase defense attorney fees

MACDL is a non-profit, state-wide organization of defense lawyers seeking to uphold Constitutional rights and ensure justice for all, particularly from unchecked power of the government against the rights of individuals. MACDL is an organization composed of private criminal defense lawyers, public defenders, and law students committed to preserving fairness within the criminal justice system. MACDL shares its view of the following proposed statute for this legislative session.

As the chief authors of SF 3712/HF 3607, we want you to know that MACDL appreciates the provision in this bill that increases the threshold amount for defense attorney's fees in state pre-trial appeals. This increase in the limit from \$5,000 to \$10,000 is the amount the prosecuting authority has to pay to the defense attorney on appeal when the prosecuting authority files a state pre-trial appeal. The \$5,000 cap has been in place since 2012. This provision applies to defense attorneys when the state appeals a pre-trial order.

Sincerely, on behalf of MACDL,

David Valentini

Jill Oleisky