

****PRESS RELEASE****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 22, 2001

CONTACT: Randy Kraft
608-267-3587 or kraftr@mail.opd.state.wi.us

Nicholas Chiarkas Elected to Executive Council at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government

(MADISON, Wisconsin) Nicholas Chiarkas, Wisconsin State Public Defender, has been elected to serve on the Alumni Executive Council at Harvard University's JFK School of Government. The 20 member advisory group provides strategic counsel to the Kennedy School of Government on carrying out its mission around the world using its prestigious alumni. Chiarkas will serve a 4-year term.

Chiarkas' election was based on the innovations and efficiencies he has been able to implement in the State Public Defender's Office. Not only was the agency recognized last year with a Wisconsin Forward Award for its organizational excellence, but it is also looked upon as a model program by other countries. Chiarkas was also named Administrator of the Year in 2000 by the American Society for Public Administration's Wisconsin Capital Chapter.

Chiarkas was previously awarded a John B. Pickett Fellowship from Harvard University to attend the Kennedy School for Government's Program for Senior Executives in Government. Aside from a law degree from Temple University, he has earned a Doctorate degree from Columbia University and Master degrees from both Columbia University and City University of New York.

###



**WISCONSIN
PUBLIC
DEFENDER**

Nicholas L. Chiarkas
State Public Defender

Virginia A. Pomeroy
Deputy State Public Defender

Deborah M. Smith
Chief Legal Counsel

Arlene F. Banoul
Administrative Director

Marla J. Stephens
Appellate Director

Ellen K. Berz
Assigned Counsel Director

Jose Perez
Chief Information Officer

Jennifer L. Bias
Community Justice Initiatives
Director

Krista L. Ginger
Executive Assistant to State Public
Defender

Kellie M. Krake
Training Director

Michael Tobin
Trial Director

WISCONSIN
FORWARD
A W A R D
2000 Recipient

315 N. Henry Street, 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 7923
Madison, WI 53707-7923
608.266.0087
Fax: 608.267.0584
www.spd.state.wi.us