



King County

1200 King County
Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Minutes Law and Justice Committee

Councilmembers:
Jorge L. Barón, Chair;
Claudia Balducci, Vice-Chair;
Rod Dembowski, Teresa Mosqueda

Lead Staff: Leah Krekel-Zoppi (206-477-0892)
Committee Clerk: Gabbi Williams (206-477-7470)

9:30 AM

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Hybrid Committee

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair Barón called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: 3 - Balducci, Barón and Dembowski

Excused: 1 - Mosqueda

3. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Balducci moved approval of the minutes of the March 5, 2025 meeting. Seeing no objections, the minutes were approved.

4. Public Comment

There were no individuals present to provide public comment.

Discussion and Possible Action

5. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0091](#)

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Adrien Leavitt, who resides in council district two, to the King County public defense advisory board, representing areas or issues that may affect public defense clients.

Melissa Bailey, Council staff, briefed the committee. Adrian Leavitt, appointee to the King County Public Defense Advisory Board, provided comments on their background and interest in serving on the committee. Will Casey, Communications Manager, Department of Public Defense and Staff Liaison to the Public Defense Advisory Board, also addressed the committee.

A motion was made by Councilmember Balducci that this Motion be Recommended Do Pass Consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Balducci, Barón and Dembowski

Excused: 1 - Mosqueda

Briefing

6. [Briefing No. 2025-B0073](#)

Audit of Asset Forfeiture by KCSO

Brooke Leary, Audit Director, King County Auditor's Office, and Peter Heineccius, Senior Principal Auditor, King County Auditor's Office, briefed the committee via a PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members. Geoffrey Thomas, Chief of Staff, King County Sheriff's Office, and Candice Duclose, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, also addressed the committee and answered questions from the members.

This matter was Presented

7. [Briefing No. 2025-B0056](#)

Department of Public Defense Annual Report

Matthew Sanders, Interim Director, Department of Public Defense (DPD), briefed the committee via a PowerPoint presentation.

This matter was Presented

8. [Briefing No. 2025-B0057](#)

Inquest Program Briefing

David Hackett, General Counsel, King County Executive, briefed the committee via a PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members. Gary Ernsdorff, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Public Integrity Team, Prosecuting Attorney's Office (PAO), and Joe Marchesano, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Public Integrity Team, PAO, also addressed the committee and answered questions from the members.

This matter was Presented

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____

Clerk's Signature