



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

### Motion 15640

**Proposed No.** 2020-0169.1

**Sponsors** Zahilay, Balducci, Upthegrove,  
Dembowski, McDermott and Kohl-Welles

1           A MOTION requesting the sheriff's office, in cooperation  
 2           with the office of law enforcement oversight, to report on  
 3           identified policy changes needed to improve internal  
 4           investigative and review mechanisms regarding officer-  
 5           involved shootings, including a response to each of the  
 6           identified recommendations contained within the February  
 7           2020 office of law enforcement oversight report,  
 8           Evaluation of the King County Sheriff's Office: Policy,  
 9           Practice, and Review Mechanisms for Officer-Involved  
 10          Shootings.

11          WHEREAS, the justice and safety goal of the King County Strategic Plan  
 12          prioritizes keeping people safe in their homes and communities, and

13          WHEREAS, the services excellence goal of the King County Strategic Plan  
 14          prioritizes building a culture of service that is responsive and accountable to the  
 15          community, and

16          WHEREAS, the King County sheriff's office provides a variety of regional and  
 17          local law enforcement services. The sheriff's office is the first-response "police  
 18          department" for all of King County's unincorporated areas. In addition, the sheriff's  
 19          office, through contracts, is the "police department" for twelve King County cities, the

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20 Metro transit department, Sound Transit, the King County international airport and  
21 several other federal, state, tribal and governmental agencies. The sheriff's office has  
22 several important regional responsibilities, including the operation of the county's  
23 automated fingerprint identification system, which is also known as AFIS, E-911 call and  
24 dispatch, King County search and rescue and various other regional programs.

25 Consequently, the sheriff's office serves all two million residents of the county, along  
26 with countless others who work, visit and travel through the county, and is one of the  
27 largest law-enforcement agencies in the Pacific Northwest. Only the city of Seattle and  
28 the Washington State Patrol have more commissioned officers, and

29 WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Justice's Office of  
30 Community Oriented Policing Services, building and maintaining community trust is the  
31 cornerstone of successful policing and law enforcement, and

32 WHEREAS, according to the sheriff's General Orders Manual, "a law  
33 enforcement agency must maintain a high level of personal and official conduct if it is to  
34 command and deserve the respect and confidence of the public it serves," and

35 WHEREAS, to build and maintain community trust, it is incumbent on the  
36 sheriff's office leadership to foster an environment in which rigorous and objective  
37 review of critical use of force incidents, such as officer-involved shootings, is routine and  
38 that the insights gained from such reviews are carefully considered, and where  
39 appropriate, result in adjustments to the sheriff's office's policies, practices and  
40 procedures, and

41 WHEREAS, the King County office of law enforcement oversight issued a report  
42 in February 2020, Evaluation of the King County Sheriff's Office: Policy, Practice, and

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43 Review Mechanisms for Officer-Involved Shootings, which reviewed the sheriff offices'  
44 internal investigative and review mechanisms in the context of a specific incident  
45 involving the January 27, 2017, shooting of Mi'Chance Dunlap-Gittens by sheriff's office  
46 deputies and which contains forty-three recommendations intended to improve the  
47 sheriff's office internal review process, enhance officer safety and potentially reduce  
48 future incidences of deadly force;

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

50 A.1. It is the request of the council that the sheriff's office, in cooperation with  
51 the office of law enforcement oversight, review, revise and report on its changes to  
52 relevant sheriff's office policies and general operating procedures related to investigative  
53 and internal review processes of use-of-force incidents, particularly incidents of officer-  
54 involved shootings. Where appropriate, the sheriff's office should utilize  
55 recommendations and lessons learned included in the February 2020 office of law  
56 enforcement oversight report, Evaluation of the King County Sheriff's Office: Policy,  
57 Practice, and Review Mechanisms for Officer-Involved Shootings ("the February 2020  
58 report") to update and improve policies.

59 2. The report should include, but not be limited to:

60 a. a response to each of the forty-three recommendations contained in the  
61 February 2020 report. Each response to include whether the sheriff intends to implement  
62 the recommendation, in whole or in part, or not. If the sheriff does not intend to  
63 implement a recommendation in whole or in part, then the response should also include  
64 the sheriff's rationale for such a decision; and

65 b. Identification of each specific general orders manual policy currently in

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66 effect related to: use-of-force policies 6.00.005 through 6.03.115; investigations of  
67 personnel misconduct policies 3.03.000 through 3.03.325; administrative review of  
68 critical incidents policies 6.02.000 through 6.02.070; and any other relevant general  
69 orders manual policies reviewed in preparation of the report requested by this motion and  
70 for each policy a description of any addition, deletion or other modification to the general  
71 orders manual the sheriff plans to implement. The description should include how  
72 sheriff's office personnel will be notified of and trained to comply with the changes, as  
73 well as a description of resources needed to implement the new or modified policies.

74 B. The sheriff shall file the report required by this motion by August 31, 2020, in  
75 the form of a paper original and an electronic copy with the clerk of the council who shall  
76 retain the original and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council chief

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77 of staff, the chief policy officer and the lead staff for the law and justice committee, or  
78 their successors.  
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Motion 15640 was introduced on 4/14/2020 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 6/9/2020, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Ms. Balducci, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Kohl-Welles, Ms. Lambert, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Upthegrove, Mr. von Reichbauer and Mr. Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:  
*Claudia Balducci*  
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Claudia Balducci, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:  
*Melani Pedroza*  
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Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None