## STAFF REPORT

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| **Agenda Item:** | 18 | **Name:** | Nick Bowman |
| **Proposed No**.: | 2022-0129 | **Date:** | May 3, 2022 |

**SUBJECT**

A motion to confirm the Executive's appointment of Ruby Welloffman to the King County Community Advisory Committee on Law Enforcement Oversight.

**SUMMARY**

Proposed Motion 2022-0129 would confirm Ruby Welloffman, who resides in council district one, to the King County Community Advisory Committee on Law Enforcement Oversight, as a representative from King County sheriff contract cities. The appointment is for a partial term expiring on March 31, 2024.

**BACKGROUND**

In May of 2009, the council created an eleven-member Citizen’s Committee on Independent Oversight (committee) to work with Office of Law Enforcement Oversight (OLEO)[[1]](#footnote-1). The legislation directed the Citizen’s Committee on Independent Oversight to advise the OLEO Director on matters important to the county’s diverse communities and to provide community input as needed. The council intended the committee to serve as a resource that represented the county’s diverse population to advise the Director on policy and public perceptions of the sheriff’s office.

The council envisioned that, with the establishment of the committee, there would be an increase in the kind of communication that fosters accountability and public understanding of the misconduct and discipline policies, procedures and practices of the sheriff's office, and other issues related to the OLEO Director’s oversight responsibilities. However, Ordinance 16511 made it clear that the committee shall not review or advise the OLEO Director on individual complaints, investigations, or disciplinary actions.

Additionally, the legislation provided no direct guidance for the establishment of committee operations including, how often meetings should be convened, what level of support the committee would need from the OLEO Director, or how the committee could best support the OLEO Director in carrying out oversight requirements.

In September of 2018, the council modified the committee’s role and responsibilities through the adoption of Ordinance 18786. Ordinance 18786 made the following changes:

* Changed the name of the Citizens’ Committee on Independent Oversight, to the Community Advisory Committee for Law Enforcement Oversight.
* Altered the composition of the committee to allow flexibility in the total number of committee members, as well as, remove the set number of committee members from specific geographic areas of the county.
* Established new duties for committee members, more closely aligned with the expanded authorities granted to OLEO under Section 265 of the King County Charterand Ordinance 18500. These duties include:
  1. Serve as liaison between OLEO and the communities it serves;
  2. Advise OLEO on law enforcement training policies and procedures;
  3. Advise KCSO and the Council on matters of equity and social justice related to law enforcement, as well as, on problems and opportunities for improvement in KCSO practices.
* Established committee operations and work processes.
* Authorized the committee to adopt its own rules and bylaws without first securing Council approval.

**ANALYSIS**

Proposed Motion 2022-0129 would confirm the Executive’s appointment of Ruby Welloffman to the Community Advisory Committee for Law Enforcement Oversight as a representative from King County sheriff contract cities for a partial term to expire on March 31, 2024. Miss Welloffman is a community advocate residing in Council District 1.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Motion 2022-0129
2. Transmittal Letter

1. Ordinance 16511 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)