



King County

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April 11, 2013

The Honorable Larry Gossett
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Gossett:

Through Ordinance 16511, the Council created The Office of Law Enforcement Oversight Citizens' Committee on Independent Oversight ("the Committee") to advise the Director of the Office of Law Enforcement Oversight (OLEO) on OLEO's responsibilities. Today I am transmitting eleven motions for Council confirmation of the inaugural appointments to the Committee.

Committee Organization & Responsibilities:

King County Code 2.36.050 governs the organization and responsibilities of the Committee. Members of the Committee are appointed by the Executive and confirmed by the Council. The Committee is to be comprised of eleven members of the public who represent the geographic, ethnic and economic diversity of the Sheriff's service area, including:

- 3 members representing cities that contract with the King County Sheriff for law enforcement services;
- 4 members representing unincorporated King County; and
- 4 members selected at-large.

The Committee is advisory to the OLEO Director and is responsible for making recommendations to the OLEO Director regarding:

- Misconduct and discipline policies, procedures and practices of the King County Sheriff's Office;
- Policies, procedures and practices related to other responsibilities of the OLEO Director; and
- Public perceptions of the King County Sheriff, the Sheriff's deputies and their roles and functions in the community.

These appointments further the goals of the Public Engagement section of the King County Strategic Plan by having the Committee serve as a means for the OLEO Director to communicate with King County's diverse communities to increase accountability as well as public understanding of policies, procedures and practices of the King County Sheriff's Office and OLEO. The Committee does not review or advise the OLEO Director on individual complaints, investigations or disciplinary actions.

Recruitment and Appointments:

In June 2012, I transmitted a letter to the Council Chair asking for nominations from the King County Council of qualified individuals to serve on this new committee. My staff also reached out to city elected officials and community stakeholders in King County requesting they submit nominations for appointment. As a result of this outreach, I am transmitting motions to appoint eleven exemplary individuals to the Committee. The slate of appointments balances several demographic categories, constituencies, and areas of expertise, including gender, race, geographic distribution within the Sheriff's service area, and a wide range of professional backgrounds. Together, these appointments represent the community well and will provide valuable guidance to the OLEO Director:

- David Baker, representing the Sheriff's Office contract cities;
- John Jenson, representing the Sheriff's Office contract cities;
- Mia Gregerson, representing the Sheriff's Office contract cities;
- Reverend Steve Baber, representing unincorporated King County;
- Sili Savusa, representing unincorporated King County;
- Patricia Richards, representing unincorporated King County;
- Hubert Sims, representing unincorporated King County;
- Patricia Masterman-Stearns, an at-large position;
- Jim Graddon, an at-large position;
- Lourdes Salazar, an at-large position; and
- Claudia Kauffman, an at-large position.

The motions I am transmitting stagger the appointments to one-, two- and three-year terms in compliance with K.C.C. 2.28.010. Upon completion of their initial terms, Committee members appointed to one- or two-year terms may seek reappointment to a full three-year term. Upon successful completion of a full three-year, Committee members are eligible for reappointment.

Recommendations:

In addition to the Council's confirmation of the slate of appointees listed above, I am asking the Council to consider adopting two changes to King County Code provisions governing the Committee.

1. **Rename the Committee.** King County has a large, vibrant and diverse immigrant community. The Committee should be inclusive of this constituency in both name and

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membership. I recommend the Council adopt legislation to amend King County Code to change the name from "The Office of Law Enforcement Oversight Citizens' Committee on Independent Oversight" to "The Office of Law Enforcement Oversight Public Advisory Committee on Independent Oversight".

2. **Expand the Committee's Membership.** The Sheriff's Office provides police service not only to the unincorporated area of the County and contract cities, but also through contract to the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe. I recommend amending King County Code to add a dedicated position on the Committee to represent the Tribe and to add an additional at-large seat so that more constituencies can be represented. The resulting composition of the Committee would be 13 members as follows:

- 3 members representing cities that contract with the King County Sheriff for law enforcement services;
- 4 members representing unincorporated King County;
- 1 member representing the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe; and
- 5 members selected at-large.

If the Council adopts an ordinance making these changes to the the Committee, I will sign it and will promptly transmit two additional appointments to fill the expansion of positions on the Committee.

Thank you for your consideration of these appointments and recommendations. If you have any questions, please contact Gail Stone, Law & Justice Policy Advisor in the King County Executive Office, at 206-263-9652.

Sincerely,



Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosures

cc: King County Councilmembers
 ATTN: Michael Woywod, Chief of Staff
 Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council
Charles Gaither, Director, Office of Law Enforcement Oversight
Carrie S. Cihak, Chief Advisor, Policy and Strategic Initiatives, King County
 Executive Office (KCEO)
Gail Stone, Law & Justice Policy Advisor, KCEO