Superior Court of the State of Washington for the County of King

Bruce W. Hilyer Presiding Judge

April 24, 2009

King County Courthouse Seattle, Washington 98104

Mr. James H. Burch, II, Acting Director Bureau of Justice Assistance Office of Justice Programs US Department of Justice 810 Seventh Street NW Washington, DC 20531

RE: Recovery Act: Byrne Competitive Grant Program Application

Greetings:

The King County Superior Court has experienced numerous threats against judicial officers, employees, jurors and the general public over the past several years. Recently completed security reports by the U.S. Marshal's Service and a private security consultant recommended numerous changes to significantly improve the safety and security for our court. This grant proposal by the King County Sheriff's Office is an important step in addressing some of those security needs, and I strongly support this application.

Funding this project will put in place a risk assessment and deterrence unit, significantly focused on court protection. Through the use of advances in behavioral science, the risk assessment and deterrence unit will be far more proactive in their approach, providing prevention and detection, rather than simply responding to incidents after the fact.

This program will provide significant security benefits to the King County Superior Court and to all who use our court facilities. I strongly encourage your support.

Sincerely,

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Bruce W. Hilyer Presiding Judge

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