

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-07 -06

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature revised RCW 72.09.300 revising the membership and responsibilities of the local Law and Justice Councils; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Clark County Law and Justice Council is to provide a permanent ongoing forum and structure to coordinate and enhance criminal, civil, and juvenile justice services in Clark County, and to fulfill the requirements of RCW 72.09.300; and

WHEREAS, the Clark County Law and Justice Council consists of government representatives and community members as stated in this resolution, and from time to time, members of the Clark County Law and Justice Council may resign or no longer represent respective positions on the council and need to be replaced in an orderly process as defined in the Clark County Law and Justice Council By-Laws; and

WHEREAS, the Clark County Law and Justice Council may, from time to time, invite individuals with specific interest or involvement in the Law and Justice to participate on the Clark County Law and Justice Council in an ad-hoc basis; and

WHEREAS, the government representatives of the Clark County Law and Justice Council shall serve their term of office or for the time of their position. Community residents shall be appointed for a two (2)-year term and may be reappointed upon a vacancy appointment process that is open to the public for a minimum of thirty (30) days, and to be appointed by the Clark County Council.

WHEREAS, the duties of the Clark County Law and Justice Council, as outlined and described in RCW 72.09.300, may address issues related to:

- a) Maximizing local resources including personnel and facilities, reducing duplication of services, and sharing resources between local and state government to accomplish local efficiencies without diminishing effectiveness;
- b) Jail management;
- c) Mechanisms for communication of information about offenders including the feasibility of shared access to databases; and
- d) Partnerships between the Department of Corrections and local policing and supervision programs to facilitate supervision of offenders under the respective jurisdictions of each and timely response to an offender's failure to comply with terms of supervision.

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Clark County Law and Justice Council would assist in meeting the current and long-term problems associated with the Law and Justice system in Clark County; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Clark County Councilors hereby establish the composition of the Clark County Law and Justice Council to be those voting members representing the organizations listed below:

- The Clark County Sheriff
- A representative of the municipal police departments within Clark County
- The Clark County Prosecutor
- A representative of the municipal prosecutors within Clark County
- A representative of the city legislative authorities within Clark County
- A representative of Clark County's superior, juvenile, district, and municipal courts
- A representative of Battle Ground's municipal Court
- The Clark County jail representative

- The Clark County Clerk
- The Clark County Risk Manager
- A Clark County Councilor
- The Clark County Manager
- The director of Clark County Community Services
- A representative from the Defense Bar
- A representative of the public defender's office
- A representative from the Washington State Patrol (WSP)
- A representative of the Washington Department of Corrections
- A representative of substance abuse treatment providers
- A representative of mental health providers
- A school superintendent or a representative of the school district or ESD112 within Clark County
- The director of Clark County Public Health
- A representative of the Cowlitz Tribe; and
- Three residents:
 - One living in the unincorporated area of Clark County
 - One living in the incorporated city of Clark County
 - One representing the business community

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Clark County Law and Justice Council shall carry out those functions as set forth in RCW 72.09.300; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that all previous Clark County ordinances, resolutions, and/or staff reports pertaining to the Clark County Law and Justice Council (including but not limited to Resolutions 1993-09-23, 1994-08-25, 2001-04-09, and 2010-02-15) are hereby repealed.

DATED this 25th day of July, 2023.

COUNTY COUNCIL CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Attest:


Clerk to the Council

By: 
Karen Dill Bowerman, Chair

By: _____
Glen Yung, Councilor

By: _____
Michelle Belkot, Councilor

By: _____
Gary Medvigy, Councilor

By: _____
Sue Marshall, Councilor

Approved as to Form Only:

Chief/Civil Prosecuting Attorney

By: 
Leslie Lopez

