

# **KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse 516 Third Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

# Signature Report

## Ordinance 19492

**Proposed No.** 2022-0300.2 **Sponsors** Balducci and Dunn 1 AN ORDINANCE relating to employee referral bonuses 2 for nonrepresented county employees for referring 3 employees to the positions of deputy sheriff, corrections 4 officer and detention officer; and establishing an expiration 5 date. STATEMENT OF FACTS: 6 7 1. Recruitment for positions in law enforcement especially public safety 8 and corrections has grown increasingly challenging in recent years. 9 2. King County is currently facing an unusually high vacancy rate among 10 its law enforcement employees, particularly deputy sheriffs, corrections 11 officers and detention officers. 12 3. These ongoing vacancies have a negative impact on the county's 13 provision of essential law enforcement services. 14 4. Employee referrals can be a reliable method of attracting candidates 15 who are more likely to successfully complete the required training 16 programs and probationary periods. 17 5. Providing an employee referral incentive is an effective way to 18 encourage employee referrals. 19 6. In an effort to bolster the number of successful law enforcement 20 candidates, it is advisable to adopt an employee referral bonus for the

21	successful referral to the position of deputy sheriff, corrections officer or	
22	detention officer.	
23	BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:	
24	SECTION 1. A referral bonus of five thousand dollars shall be paid to a	
25	nonrepresented employee who refers a successful candidate to the position of deputy	
26	sheriff, corrections officer or detention officer. The bonus shall be subject to the	
27	following:	
28	A. All nonrepresented employees, in any branch of county government, are	
29	eligible for a referral bonus, except for those employees who by virtue of their jobs are	
30	assigned or tasked with recruiting for deputy sheriff, corrections officer or detention	
31	officer. For example, employees tasked with attending a job fair for recruitment	
32	purposes is not eligible for the referral bonus(es) associated with any candidate(s) that	
33	were recruited from that job fair;	
34	B. The referral bonus shall be paid only after the candidate has successfully	
35	completed the candidate's probationary period in the applicable law enforcement	
36	position;	
37	C. The referral bonus shall be paid to the referring employee in the first full pay	
38	period following successful completion of probation by the candidate;	
39	D. The referring employee must be an active county employee both at the time of	
40	the referral and at the time of the bonus payment;	
41	E. All bonus payments are subject to applicable taxes, retirement or other	
42	withholdings;	
43	F. The applicant must include the full name of the referring employee on the	

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44	applicant's initial employment application, which shall be documented in a manner
45	approved by the applicable recruiting department. Only one referring employee may be
46	listed on the application and only that referring employee may receive the bonus;
47	G. The candidate's application must be submitted prior to January 1, 2023;
48	H. There is not a limit to the number of applicants an employee may refer or to
49	the number of bonuses an employee can receive;
50	I. An employee may not use themself as the referring employee to a position to
51	which the employee is an applicant;
52	J. An employee may not refer a person who is a county employee at the time of
53	application; and
54	K. An employee may not refer an employee who was a county employee at any

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

**Attachments:** None

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

- 55 time during the twelve months before application.
- 56 SECTION 2. This ordinance expires December 31, 2022.

Ordinance 19492 was introduced on 7/26/2022 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 9/6/2022, by the following vote:

> Yes: 9 - Balducci, Dembowski, Dunn, Kohl-Welles, Perry, McDermott, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON DocuSigned by: Claudia Balducci, Chair APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_9/16/2022 Dow Constanti

Dow Constantine, County Executive

KING COUNTY COUNCIL

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Claudia Balducci claudia.balducci@kingcounty.gov

Council Chair

King County General (ITD)

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Melani Pedroza

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Operating Systems:	Windows® 2000, Windows® XP, Windows Vista®; Mac OS® X	
Browsers:	Final release versions of Internet Explorer® 6.0 or above (Windows only); Mozilla Firefox 2.0 or above (Windows and Mac); Safari <sup>TM</sup> 3.0 or above (Mac only)	
PDF Reader:	Acrobat® or similar software may be required to view and print PDF files	
Screen Resolution:	800 x 600 minimum	

Enabled Security Settings:	Allow per session cookies

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