



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

### Ordinance 19382

**Proposed No.** 2021-0465.1

**Sponsors** Balducci

1           AN ORDINANCE relating to the executive's authority to  
 2           appoint directors of executive departments; amending  
 3           Ordinance 11955, Section 13, as amended, and K.C.C.  
 4           2.16.120; and declaring an emergency.

5           BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

6           SECTION 1. Findings:

7           A. In November 2020, the voters of King County approved Charter  
 8           Amendment No. 5, returning the King County sheriff to an appointed position  
 9           with a requirement for consideration of community stakeholder input during the  
 10          selection, appointment and confirmation process to be prescribed by county  
 11          ordinance. The charter amendment becomes operational at the end of the current  
 12          elected sheriff's term, which takes effect January 1, 2022.

13          B. In November 2020, the voters of King County approved Charter  
 14          Amendment No. 6, allowing the duties of the chief officer of the department of  
 15          public safety, who may also be referred to as the county sheriff, and the duties and  
 16          structure of the department of public safety to be established by county ordinance.

17          C. In advance of the effective date of Charter Amendment No. 5,  
 18          Ordinance 19249, as amended by Ordinance 19313, established an advisory  
 19          committee regarding the selection, appointment and confirmation of the county

Ordinance 19382

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20 sheriff. The advisory committee's report was filed with the council in September  
21 30, 2021.

22 D. This ordinance modifies the King County Code to reflect the passage  
23 of Charter Amendment No. 5, by allowing the executive to appoint an acting  
24 director of public safety.

25 E. For the continuance of leadership in the department of public safety,  
26 the executive must be able to appoint an acting director of public safety no later  
27 than January 1, 2022. As a result, this ordinance must be enacted as an  
28 emergency ordinance.

29 SECTION 2. Ordinance 11955, Section 13, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.16.120,  
30 are hereby amended to read as follows:

31 A. The county executive shall appoint the county administrative officer and the  
32 director of each executive department, except the departments of assessments, ((public  
33 safety,)) elections and judicial administration. The county executive shall also appoint the  
34 division director of the youth detention facility through a competitive search process that  
35 includes participation by the superior court judges. The appointment of the county public  
36 defender shall be consistent with Section 350.20.61 of the King County Charter and K.C.C.  
37 chapter 2.60.

38 B. The county administrative officer shall appoint the division directors and chief  
39 officers of each administrative office in the department of executive services.

40 C. The director of each executive department, at the discretion of the county  
41 executive, shall appoint exempt employees of the director's department as provided in  
42 Section 550 of the King County Charter.

Ordinance 19382

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43 D.1. All appointments by the county executive shall be subject to confirmation by  
44 a majority of the county council except exempt personnel assigned to the executive's  
45 personal staff.

46 2. All appointments to positions of division director or chief officer of an  
47 administrative office not made by the county executive shall be subject to approval by the  
48 county executive.

49 E.1.a. All individuals appointed by the county executive, under Section 340.40 of  
50 the King County Charter, shall serve in an acting capacity, unless confirmed by the council.  
51 The executive is authorized to appoint a person to serve in an acting capacity to fill a  
52 position requiring council confirmation for a period of no greater than one hundred fifty  
53 days. The executive shall notify the council within ninety days concerning the status of the  
54 executive's search for qualified candidates for appointment to the vacant position.  
55 Thereafter, the individual may continue serving in an acting capacity for successive sixty-  
56 day periods only with approval by motion of the county council. The council shall grant at  
57 least one successive sixty-day extension if the executive certifies to the council's  
58 satisfaction that the executive is actively pursuing a search for qualified candidates for  
59 appointment to the vacant position. If no appointment is transmitted to the council for  
60 confirmation during the authorized period, the position shall be considered vacant for  
61 purposes of exercise of any authority given to the position under ordinance and no salary  
62 shall be paid for the position while it is so vacant.

63 b. Within seven calendar days of any executive appointment that is subject to  
64 council confirmation, the executive shall deliver written notice of said appointment to the  
65 council accompanied by a proposed motion confirming the appointment.

Ordinance 19382

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66 c. Upon the receipt of the notification by the executive of an appointment,  
67 accompanied by the proposed motion, the council shall act to consider confirmation of the  
68 appointment within ninety days. Approval of the introduced motion by a majority of the  
69 council shall constitute confirmation of the appointee. Once confirmed, the appointee is no  
70 longer serving in an acting capacity.

71 d. In considering the confirmation of executive appointments to offices of  
72 management level responsibility, the council shall base its review on the ability of the  
73 appointee to meet the following criteria:

- 74 (1) a demonstrated reputation for integrity and professionalism;  
75 (2) a commitment to and knowledge of the responsibilities of the office;  
76 (3) a history of demonstrated leadership, experience and administrative ability;  
77 (4) the ability to work effectively with the executive, the council, other  
78 management, public agencies, private organizations and citizens; and  
79 (5) a demonstrated sensitivity to and knowledge of the particular needs and  
80 problems of minorities and women.

81 e. The appointee, before review of the appointment by the council, shall submit  
82 to the chair of the council:

- 83 (1) a full and complete resume of the appointee's employment history, to  
84 include references attesting to the stated employment experiences; and  
85 (2) a signed statement acknowledging that the council's confirmation process  
86 may require the submittal of additional information relating to the background and  
87 expertise of the appointee.

Ordinance 19382

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88           f. Upon receipt of an executive appointment, the chair or the chair's delegate,  
89 subject to the council's rules of procedure, shall notify council members of the appointment  
90 and attempt to allow a minimum of one work week for individual members to submit  
91 written questions to the reviewing committee.

92           2. It is understood that written inquiries submitted to the reviewing committee,  
93 by individual council members, may require a written response from the appointee or the  
94 executive, in matters pertaining to the process of appointment and other pertinent  
95 employment policies of King County.

96           SECTION 3. The county council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency  
97 exists and that this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace,

Ordinance 19382

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- 98 health or safety or for the support of county government and its existing public
- 99 institutions.

Ordinance 19382 was introduced on 12/7/2021 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 12/14/2021, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Ms. Balducci, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Kohl-Welles, Ms. Lambert, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Upthegrove, Mr. von Reichbauer and Mr. Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:  
*Claudia Balducci*  
7E1C273CE9994B6...  
Claudia Balducci, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:  
*Angel Allende*  
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Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None

**Certificate Of Completion**

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**Signer Events**

Claudia Balducci  
 claudia.balducci@kingcounty.gov  
 King County General (ITD)  
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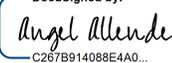
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 King County Council  
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Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps

<b>Envelope Summary Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
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<b>Payment Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
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