



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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www.kingcounty.gov

August 9, 2023

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

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

As called for by Ordinance 19546, Section 54, Proviso P2, as amended by Ordinance 19633, Section 44, Proviso P2, this letter transmits a report on the hiring, vacancies, and separations of corrections officers and corrections sergeants in the Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention (DAJD). The enclosed report covers the time period of January 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023.

DAJD has experienced significant attrition in the ranks of corrections officers and sergeants in 2021 and 2022. Despite substantial progress in hiring, with 48 new corrections officers hired in 2020, and 57 in 2022, employment separations were at record levels in 2021 and 2022.

Attrition among corrections officers and sergeants is not unique to King County. A survey to be published in September by the Washington State Joint Legislative Task Force on Jail Standards identifies a vacancy rate for corrections officers in Washington jails of over 20 percent, with some jails operating at almost 40 percent of positions unfilled.

Thank you for your consideration of this report.

If your staff have questions, please contact Diana Joy, Interim Chief of Administration, Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, at 206-263-2769.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

August 9, 2023

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cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Mina Hashemi, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

Allen Nance, Director, Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention