



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

May 28, 2014

### Ordinance 17812

Proposed No. 2014-0180.1

Sponsors Lambert

1 AN ORDINANCE requiring the council review of bylaws  
2 for the operation of the citizens' committee on independent  
3 oversight; and amending Ordinance 15611, Section 9, as  
4 amended, and K.C.C. 2.36.050.

5 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

6 1. Beginning in January 2006, the county council's law, justice and human  
7 services committee held eleven meetings to consider civilian oversight for  
8 the sheriff's office. During the same timeframe as the county council's  
9 deliberations related to oversight, the sheriff established a "Blue Ribbon  
10 Panel" to review the internal management systems within the sheriff's  
11 office related to employee misconduct and discipline.

12 2. The law, justice and human services committee, based on its  
13 deliberations and its review of the 2006 sheriff's oversight blue ribbon  
14 panel report, developed legislation with the goal to design a system for  
15 civilian oversight that allows for the independent civilian monitoring and  
16 evaluation of ongoing investigations. The legislation included the creation  
17 of a citizens' advisory committee on law enforcement oversight.

18 3. On October 9, 2006, the council approved Ordinance 15611 regarding  
19 civilian oversight of the sheriff's office, creating the office of law

20 enforcement oversight as an independent office within the legislative  
21 branch. The office was given significant powers to review complaints and  
22 investigations; and to also create a citizens' advisory committee.

23 4. Shortly after the council approved Ordinance 15611, establishing the  
24 requirements for civilian oversight of the sheriff's office, the King County  
25 Police Officers Guild filed an unfair labor practice charge against the  
26 county. On November 19, 2007, the county and the King County Police  
27 Officers Guild finalized an agreement that Ordinance 15611 would be  
28 treated as a labor policy and that this policy would need to be bargained in  
29 good faith. As a result, the King County Police Officers Guild dismissed  
30 its unfair labor practice charge against the county. As a consequence of  
31 this agreement, the executive took no action to implement the elements of  
32 Ordinance 15611.

33 5. On December 8, 2008, the council passed Ordinance 16327, approving  
34 a new five-year collective bargaining agreement between King County  
35 and the King County Police Officers Guild. The new collective  
36 bargaining agreement required the county to repeal most of Ordinance  
37 15611, eliminating the primary components of the legislation establishing  
38 the office of law enforcement oversight. Nevertheless, the agreement let  
39 stand the provisions creating the citizen's' advisory committee for  
40 oversight.

41 6. In May 2009, the council adopted Ordinance 16511 to establish a  
42 system of civilian oversight in accordance with the approved labor

43 agreement. The ordinance was developed to address the adopted  
44 collective bargaining agreement while also preserving some civilian  
45 oversight capabilities for the office of law enforcement oversight. The  
46 new ordinance kept the provisions to establish a citizens' advisory board.

47 7. The adopted oversight legislation requires that the executive shall  
48 appoint, subject to council confirmation, a citizens' committee on  
49 independent oversight to advise the director of the office of law  
50 enforcement oversight on policies, procedures and practices relating to  
51 officer misconduct, discipline and other responsibilities of the director of  
52 the office of law enforcement oversight.

53 8. Because of the desire of the council to ensure that the citizen's  
54 committee on oversight is properly established and that its responsibilities  
55 and scope of work address the council's intended purposes, this ordinance  
56 requires that the council approve by motion the committee's bylaws.

57 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

58 SECTION 1. Ordinance 15661, Section 9, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.36.050 are  
59 each hereby amended to read as follows:

60 A. The executive shall appoint, subject to council confirmation, a citizens'  
61 committee on independent oversight to advise the director of the office of law  
62 enforcement oversight, which is created under K.C.C. chapter 2.75, on policies,  
63 procedures and practices relating to officer misconduct, discipline and other  
64 responsibilities of the director of the office of law enforcement oversight.

65           B. The committee shall include eleven members of the public who represent the  
66 geographic, ethnic and economic diversity of the sheriff's service area. The committee  
67 shall consist of three members representing cities that contract with the sheriff for law  
68 enforcement services, four members shall represent unincorporated King County and four  
69 members shall be selected at-large. The committee members shall be appointed for three-  
70 year terms, subject to reappointment for additional terms.

71           C. The committee shall make recommendations to the director regarding:

72           1. Misconduct and discipline policies, procedures and practices of the sheriff's  
73 office;

74           2. Policies, procedures and practices related to other responsibilities of the  
75 director of the office of law enforcement oversight; and

76           3. Public perceptions of the sheriff, the sheriff's deputies and their roles and  
77 functions in the community.

78           D. The committee shall also serve as a means for the director of the office of law  
79 enforcement oversight to communicate with King County's diverse communities. The  
80 communication should increase accountability and public understanding of the  
81 misconduct and discipline policies, procedures and practices of the sheriff's office and  
82 other issues related to the director of the office of law enforcement oversight's  
83 responsibilities.

84           E. The committee shall not review or advise the director of the office of law  
85 enforcement oversight on individual complaints, investigations or disciplinary actions.

86           F. The committee, after consulting with the director of the office of law  
87 enforcement oversight, shall adopt bylaws and rules, including meeting times and

88 quorum requirements, and submit a proposed motion for their approval to the council. To  
89 take effect, the bylaws and rules must be approved by the council by motion.  
90

Ordinance 17812 was introduced on 5/12/2014 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 5/27/2014, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert,  
Mr. Dunn, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski and Mr. Upthegrove  
No: 0  
Excused: 1 - Ms. Hague

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



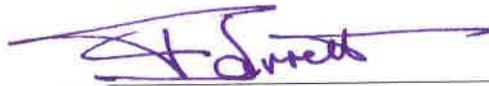
Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2014.



Dow Constantine, County Executive

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Attachments: None