## PROTOCOL COMMITTEE AGREEMENT

The Protocol Committee met on January 9, 2007; January 31, 2007; and February 21, 2007, to consider the recommendations of the Technical Subcommittee. Protocol Committee members present included Judge Michael Trickey (Chair), Councilmember Lambert, Seattle King County Bar Association Representative John Cary and King County Executive Representative Bob Cowan. Technical Committee members present included John Amos and Jeremy Jepson, Office of Budget and Finance; Clif Curry, Council Staff; Shiquan Liao and Barb Miner, Department of Judicial Administration; and Paul Sherfey, Superior Court/Chair.

Following discussion, the Protocol Committee recommends that the King County Executive and the King County Council:

1. Accept the revised protocol indicator developed by the Technical Subcommittee. The revised protocol indicator on pending caseload more accurately reflects a measurable standard for determining potential judicial need. The current indicator is:

The pending caseload has shown an overall increase of 3% or more in four consecutive quarters compared to the same period of the previous year;

The revised indicator is:

"The computed WCI has shown to be equal or greater than 102 in four consecutive quarters."

$$WCI = \sum$$
 (weight \* current pending caseload) = 0.111\*  $P_1 + 0.039* P_2 + 0.062* P_3 + 0.087* P_4$ 

where  $P_i$  (i = 1, 2, 3, 4) is the current pending caseload for criminal, civil and domestic cases without children, domestic with children and paternity cases, and juvenile offender and dependency cases, respectively.  $W_i$  (i=1, 2, 3, 4) is the computed weight based on the second approach.

- 2. Add two (2) new judge positions, based upon the current shortfall, as indicated by applying current data against the three primary protocol indicators. The recommendation will be transmitted by Councilmember Lambert to the King County Council and by Mr. Cowan to the County Executive.
- 3. Phase in the two new judge positions. Although the protocol indicators reflect the need for two judges immediately, phasing in the new judge positions recognizes the financial constraints of immediate implementation. The recommended phase-in plan is as follows:

- a) Adding one judge position effective July 1, 2007.
- Adding one judge position effective January 1, 2009, with the intent that the position would be created in 2008, allowing individuals to file to run for the position by the primary election 2008, with the funding for the position effective January 1, 2009.

In addition, periodic reports will be provided to all members of the protocol committee during the next two years in order to measure the effect on court workload of each new judge position, as well as to determine and monitor benefits of caseflow management efforts currently underway.

Michael Trickey, Presiding Judge
Chair

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Chair

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Kathy Lambert, King County Council
Chair of Law, Justice and Human Services Committee

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Bob Cowan, King County Director of the Office of
Management and Budget

John Cary, King County Bar Association
Representative

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