May 11, 2008 Council Meeting

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	Sponsors: Ferguson, Patterson TOA
Л	Proposed No.: 2009-0260
D	Proposed No.: 2009-0260 PASSED! 8-0 Julia Patterson PUR EXCUSED STRIKING AMENDMENT TO PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2009-0260, VERSION
1	STRIKING AMENDMENT TO PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2009-0260, VERSION
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3	On page 5, beginning on line 98, strike everything through page 25, line 542, and insert:
4	"SECTION 1. Ordinance 15611, Section 2, and K.C.C. 2.75.010 are each hereby
5	amended to read as follows:
6	((Definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly
7	requires otherwise.
8	A. "Command staff" means those sheriff's employees who are responsible for the
9	chain of command or line of supervision from shift, unit or precinct levels through division
10	command level, including the sheriff.
11	B. "Critical incident" means:
12	1. An officer-involved shooting resulting in death or injury;
13	2. The use of force resulting in death or serious bodily injury;
14	3. An in-custody death;
15	4. A vehicular pursuit resulting in death or serious bodily injury;
16	5. A traffic collision involving an officer resulting in death or serious bodily

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injury; or

18	6. Any incident of workplace violence.
19	C. "Director" means the director of the office of law enforcement oversight.
20	D. "Final discipline" means the action taken against an employee after all
21	investigations are complete and the employee has exhausted his or her administrative
22	rights.
23	E. "Internal investigations unit" means the unit within the sheriff's office
24	responsible for internal investigations, or its successor.
25	F. "Office" means the office of law enforcement oversight created under this
26	chapter.
27	G. "Serious complaint" means allegations of serious misconduct as defined in the
28	Sheriff's Office General Operating Manual (G.O.M. 3.00.015) as currently written or
29	hereinafter amended. These are allegations that could be cause for dismissal, including:
30	false reporting; dishonesty; criminal conduct; taking or giving a bribe; inducing someone to
31	commit a crime; failing to cooperate in an investigation; conviction of a crime precluding
32	possession of a firearm; discrimination; or harassment.
33	H. "Sustained complaint" means a complaint where, as the result of an
34	investigation, the allegation is supported by sufficient factual evidence and was a violation
35	of policy.)) The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the
36	context clearly requires otherwise.
37	A. "Command staff" means those sheriff's employees who are responsible for the
38	chain of command or line of supervision from shift, unit or precinct levels through
39	division command level, including the sheriff.

40	B. "Director" means the director of the office of law enforcement oversight or the
41	director's designee.
42	C. "Critical incident review" means the written findings of a shooting review
43	board or an accident review board conducted by the sheriff's office.
44	D. "Internal investigations unit" means the unit within the sheriff's office
45	responsible for internal investigations, or its successor.
46	E. "Office" means the office of law enforcement oversight created under this
47	chapter.
48	F. "Serious matter" means allegations of serious misconduct as defined in the
49	Sheriff's Office General Orders Manual as currently written or hereinafter amended.
50	G. "Sustained complaint" means a complaint where, as the result of an
51	investigation, the allegation is supported by sufficient factual evidence and was a
52	violation of policy.
53	SECTION 2. Ordinance 15611, Section 3, and K.C.C. 2.75.020 are each hereby
54	amended to read as follows:
55	((The office of law enforcement oversight is hereby established within the
56	legislative branch. The office of law enforcement oversight is an investigative agency as
57	that term is used in RCW 42.56.240. The office shall have four full-time staff members,
58	which include a director, an investigator and two support staff. The office's roles,
59	responsibilities and authorities are prescribed in this chapter. Decisions about the functions
60	and implementation of the office should be the result of a collaborative process that
61	involves, at a minimum, the executive, the council, the prosecuting attorney, the sheriff and
62	the labor organizations that represent sheriff's office employees. It is the intent of the

council that the office shall be colocated with the sheriff's investigative staff in order to
perform the duties described in this ordinance.)) The office of law enforcement oversight
is hereby established within the legislative branch. The office of law enforcement
oversight is an investigative agency as that term is used in RCW 42.56.240. The office's
roles, responsibilities and authorities are prescribed in this chapter. Decisions about the
functions and implementation of the office should be the result of a collaborative process
that involves, at a minimum, the executive, the council, the prosecuting attorney, the
sheriff and the labor organizations that represent sheriff's office employees.
SECTION 3. Ordinance 15611, Section 4, and K.C.C. 2.75.030 are each hereby
amended to read as follows:
((A. The director shall be appointed by the executive and confirmed by the council.
The executive shall conduct a nationwide search for the director to identify candidates with
the following characteristics:
1. A reputation for integrity and professionalism, as well as the ability to maintain
a high standard of integrity in the office;
2. An understanding of and a commitment to the responsibilities of the office;
3. Demonstrated leadership and a history of effective management and
administration;
4. The ability to gain the trust and respect of sheriff's office employees;
5. The ability to work effectively with the executive, council, prosecuting attorney
and sheriff, as well as other public agencies, labor organizations, private organizations and
citizens;
6. An openness to innovation and new ideas;

86	7. Sensitivity to and knowledge of the particular needs and concerns of minorities
87	and women in a law enforcement setting;
88	8. The ability to work effectively under pressure with controversial issues and the
89	ability to effectively communicate with diverse groups;
90	9. No history of employment in the sheriff's office, and
91	10. The selected director must pass a complete criminal background check and
92	polygraph prior to confirmation.
93	B. The director shall serve a term of four years, unless removed for cause at any
94	time by motion approved by a majority of the council, and shall be considered by the
95	county council for reappointment at the end of each term of office.
96	C. The director, with consultation of the council, may employ investigators, staff
97	assistants, clerical personnel or use the services of consultants as may be necessary for
98	conduct of the office's duties. These employees and/or contractors must pass a complete
99	criminal background check and polygraph prior to employment.))
100	A. The director shall be appointed by the executive and confirmed by the council.
101	The executive shall conduct a nationwide search for the director to identify candidates
102	with the following characteristics:
103	1. A reputation for integrity and professionalism, as well as the ability to
104	maintain a high standard of integrity in the office;
105	2. An understanding of and a commitment to the responsibilities of the office;
106	3. Demonstrated leadership and a history of effective management and
107	administration;
108	4. The ability to gain the trust and respect of sheriff's office employees;

109	5. The ability to work effectively with the executive, council, prosecuting
110	attorney and sheriff, as well as other public agencies, labor organizations, private
111	organizations and citizens;
112	6. An openness to innovation and new ideas;
113	7. Sensitivity to and knowledge of the particular needs and concerns of
114	minorities and women in a law enforcement setting;
115	8. The ability to work effectively under pressure with controversial issues and
116	the ability to effectively communicate with diverse groups;
117	9. No history of employment in the sheriff's office,
118	10. A history that includes the establishment of a reputation for even-
119	handedness and fairness in dealing with both complainants and regulated parties; and
120	11. The selected director must pass a complete criminal background check prior
121	to confirmation.
122	B. Candidates for appointment shall be selected by a committee of five members
123	that shall recommend three candidates for the director position to the executive, one of
124	which must be selected. The selection committee shall be composed of: one member
125	appointed by the King County Police Officers' Guild; one member appointed by the
126	Puget Sound Police Managers' Association; one member appointed by the chair of the
127	county council; and one member appointed by the county executive. The fifth member
128	shall be appointed by the other four members.
129	C. The director shall serve a term of four years, unless removed for cause at any
130	time by motion approved by a majority of the council, and shall be considered by the
131	county council for reappointment at the end of each term of office.

132 D. The director, with consultation of the council and within the amount available 133 or budgeted by appropriation, may employ staff or use the services of consultants as may 134 be necessary for conduct of the office's duties. These employees or contractors must pass 135 a complete criminal background check before employment. 136 SECTION 4. Ordinance 15611, Section 5, and K.C.C. 2.75.040 are each hereby 137 amended to read as follows: 138 ((The office, in order to ensure the integrity of the sheriff's complaint and 139 investigations processes and to ensure resolution of citizen and employee initiated 140 complaints: 141 A. Shall receive complaints from any source concerning the sheriff's office, track 142 complaints received, and transmit the complaints to the internal investigations unit; 143 B. Shall monitor, check for completeness and require additional investigation as 144 necessary of all internal investigations unit activities, including administrative and 145 employee-initiated complaints and allegations investigations; 146 C. May monitor, check for completeness, evaluate the resolution of and require 147 additional investigation as necessary of all other complaints and allegations including those 148 assigned by the internal investigations unit to supervisors for investigation and resolution; 149 and 150 D. May review and make recommendations to the internal investigations unit about 151 the screening and classification of complaints, as well as make recommendations to the 152 sheriff about screening and classification policies and procedures. In addition, may 153 monitor the complaint intake process and evaluate decisions whether a complaint requires 154 initiation of a formal internal investigation or assignment to supervisors for investigation

155	and resolution.)) In order to ensure the integrity of the sheriff's complaint and
156	investigations processes and to ensure resolution of citizen and employee initiated
157	complaints:
158	A. The office shall receive complaints from any complaining party concerning the
159	sheriff's office, track complaints received and transmit the complaints to the internal
160	investigations unit;
161	B. In addition to complaints received by the office, the internal investigations
162	unit shall provide copies of all other complaints to the office within three business days;
163	C. The office shall not conduct independent disciplinary investigations, but may
164	participate in interviews as provided in K.C.C. 2.75.060;
165	D. The office shall be provided a copy of any letter or other notification to an
166	officer informing them of actual discipline imposed as a result of an internal affairs
167	investigation or the notice of finding if the complaint is not sustained;
168	E. The office shall be notified by the internal investigations unit within five
169	business days of the completion of an internal investigation. The office, in addition to the
170	sheriff's office's written notice of finding letter to the complainant, may send a closing
171	letter to the complainant.
172	SECTION 5. Ordinance 15611, Section 6, and K.C.C. 2.75.050 are each hereby
173	amended to read as follows:
174	((The office, in order to ensure transparency to the sheriff's discipline and complaint
175	handling processes and guarantee adequate information is made available to maintain
176	public confidence, shall also:

A. Monitor the investigation and resolution of all complaints to ensure they are handled in a timely fashion and complainants are notified of the final disposition of their complaints;

B. Coordinate with the sheriff's office in the development of all technology applications for tracking and information sharing;

C. Issue annual reports, beginning March 1, 2008. The office shall file twelve copies of each report with the clerk of the council, for distribution to all councilmembers.

To facilitate availability of the reports to the public, the office shall also retain paper copies of the reports and post the reports on the Internet. The office shall provide in the reports:

1. A statistical analysis of complaints, investigative findings and final discipline for sustained complaints. The reports should include information about the number and type of misconduct cases where the director disagreed with the sheriff on either findings or discipline decisions; and

2. Make recommendations for action by the sheriff on needed improvements in policies, procedures and practices stemming from analyses that look beyond the individual cases of misconduct to identify systemic problems within the sheriff's office. In addition to investigational materials available to the office, the director shall make use of all other available materials, including internal and external audits and reviews of the sheriff's office and critical incident reviews, in developing and making recommendations for improvements.)) The office, in order to ensure transparency to the sheriff's discipline and complaint handling processes and guarantee adequate information is made available to the office in order to maintain public confidence, shall also:

199	A. Monitor the investigation and resolution of all complaints to ensure they are
200	handled in a timely fashion and complainants are notified of the final disposition of their
201	complaints;
202	B. Coordinate with the sheriff's office in the development of all technology
203	applications for tracking and information sharing;
204	C. Issue annual reports, beginning March 1, 2010. The office shall file twelve
205	copies of each report with the clerk of the council, for distribution to all councilmembers.
206	To facilitate availability of the reports to the public, the office shall also retain paper
207	copies of the reports and post the reports on the Internet. The office shall provide in the
208	reports:
209	1. A statistical analysis of complaints, investigative findings and final discipline
210	for sustained complaints. The reports should include information about the number and
211	type of misconduct cases in which the director did not certify that the investigation was
212	thorough and objective; and
213	2. Make recommendations for action by the sheriff on needed improvements in
214	policies, procedures and practices stemming from analyses that look beyond the
215	individual cases of misconduct to identify systemic problems within the sheriff's office.
216	In addition to investigational materials available to the office, the director shall make use
217	of all other available materials, including internal and external audits and reviews of the
218	sheriff's office and critical incident reviews, in developing and making recommendations
219	for improvements.
220	SECTION 6. Ordinance 15611, Section 7, and K.C.C. 2.75.060 are each hereby
221	amended to read as follows:

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A. Unimpeded and real-time access to unredacted case information and all information related to ongoing investigation files, treating all documents and information regarding specific investigations or officers as required by law. The only exception to this subsection is files related to ongoing investigations of deputies or other sheriff's staff who are under criminal investigation. Upon completion of the criminal investigation and resolution of the any criminal matter, the office shall review the case files in order to determine whether a disciplinary investigation should be initiated;

B. The ability to respond to the scene of critical incidents. At a critical incident scene, the investigator or investigators from the office shall only be an observer or observers. They shall not conduct or interfere with any investigation, and they shall coordinate their presence and activities with the on-scene commander from the sheriff's office. The investigators' duties to monitor, check for completeness and require additional investigation as necessary apply only if a formal complaint investigation is conducted by the internal investigations unit;

C. Approval for completeness of complaint investigations before a finding can be issued. The internal investigations unit must submit all completed misconduct investigations to the office, with an amount of time specified for the approval or direction for further investigation. If the unit disagrees with the office, the sheriff shall act as arbiter and makes the final decision or decisions;

D. The option to consult with command staff or the appropriate supervisor as to the command staff's or supervisor's own review and recommendations regarding a particular investigation, including proposed discipline; and

245	E. The option to submit recommendations regarding findings and discipline
246	directly to the sheriff before a final decision on misconduct cases.)) In order to oversee
247	misconduct investigations:
248	A. The office shall have unimpeded and real-time access to unredacted case
249	information and all information related to ongoing investigation files. The only
250	exception to this subsection is files related to ongoing investigations of deputies or other
251	sheriff's staff who are under criminal investigation. The office shall protect all
252	documents and information regarding specific investigations or officers as required by
253	<u>law;</u>
254	B. The internal investigations unit shall notify the office of all administrative
255	interviews on all complaints of a serious matter, which are complaints that could lead to
256	suspension, demotion or discharge, and all complaints originating from the office. A
257	single office representative may attend and observe interviews and shall be given the
258	opportunity to ask questions that are within the scope of permissible investigative
259	questioning after the completion of questioning by the sheriff's office;
260	C. The office shall not participate in criminal investigations of sheriff's office
261	employees in any way and shall not be notified of any part of the criminal investigation
262	until the criminal investigation is concluded. At that point, the file shall be provided to
263	the office;
264	D. Upon completion of internal investigations, the unit shall forward a complete
265	copy of the case file to the office for review. The director shall determine, in writing,
266	whether the investigation was thorough and objective;

E. As a part of the review process, if the director believes that additional
investigation is needed on issues material to the outcome, the director shall request that
further investigative work be completed. If there is any dispute between the assigned
investigator or investigators and the office regarding the necessity, practicality or
materiality of the requested additional investigation, the unit commander shall determine
whether additional investigation will be undertaken. If the director is not satisfied with
the determination of the unit commander, the matter shall be submitted to the sheriff for
review. If the director is not satisfied with the determination of the sheriff, the matter
shall be resolved by the executive, whose decision shall be final. Once the matter has
been referred to and resolved by the executive, the investigation shall be completed
consistent with the determination by the executive;
F. After completion of the additional investigation, or the conclusion that no
further investigation will be undertaken, the office shall certify whether or not, in the
opinion of the director, the internal investigation was thorough and objective. The
determination shall be made within five business days;
G. The office shall be provided a copy of any letter or other notification to an
officer informing them of actual discipline imposed as a result of an internal affairs
investigation or the notice of finding if the complaint is not sustained.
SECTION 7. Ordinance 15611, Section 8, and K.C.C. 2.75.070 are each hereby
amended to read as follows:
((The office, in collaboration with the sheriff's office, shall establish and administer
a voluntary officer-citizen mediation program. The program shall provide an alternative
method to resolve citizen complaints by allowing willing citizens and officers to meet

under the guidance of a professional mediator to discuss and resolve their differences. The office and the sheriff's office shall establish standards and guidelines for determining when a particular complaint may be referred to mediation. Serious complaints are excluded from the use of mediation to resolve allegations.)) The office, in collaboration with the sheriff's office, shall establish and administer a voluntary officer-citizen mediation program. The program shall provide an alternative method to resolve citizen complaints by allowing willing citizens and officers to meet under the guidance of a professional mediator to discuss and resolve their differences. The office and the sheriff's office shall establish standards and guidelines for determining when a particular complaint may be referred to mediation. Serious complaints are excluded from the use of mediation to resolve allegations. Prior to the complainant agreeing to utilize the mediation process to resolve the complaint, the office shall explain the mediation process to the complainant, including that if the officer participates in good faith, the officer will not be subject to discipline and the complaint will be administratively dismissed. SECTION 8. Ordinance 15611, Section 9, and K.C.C. 2.36.050 are each hereby amended to read as follows: ((A. Using the process prescribed in K.C.C. 2.28.0015, the executive shall appoint, subject to council confirmation, a citizens' committee on independent oversight

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((A. Using the process prescribed in K.C.C. 2.28.0015, the executive shall appoint, subject to council confirmation, a citizens' committee on independent oversight to advise the director of the office of independent oversight, which is created under K.C.C. chapter 2.75, on policies, procedures and practices relating to officer misconduct, discipline and other responsibilities of the director of the office of independent oversight.

B. The committee shall include eleven members of the public who represent the geographic, ethnic and economic diversity of the sheriff's service area. The committee

313	shall consist of three members representing cities that contract with the sheriff for law
314	enforcement services, four of the members shall represent unincorporated King County,
315	and the four members shall be selected at large. The committee members shall be
316	appointed for three-year terms, subject to reappointment for additional terms.
317	C. The committee shall make recommendations to the director of independent
318	oversight regarding:
319	1. Misconduct and discipline policies, procedures and practices of the sheriff's
320	office;
321	2. Policies, procedures and practices related to other responsibilities of the
322	director of the office of independent oversight; and
323	3. Public perceptions of the sheriff, the sheriff's deputies and their roles and
324	functions in the community.
325	D. The committee shall also serve as a means for the director of the office of
326	independent oversight to communicate with King County's diverse communities. The
327	communication should increase accountability and public understanding of the
328	misconduct and discipline policies, procedures and practices of the sheriff's office and
329	other issues related to the director of the office of independent oversight's responsibilities.
330	E. The committee shall not review or advise the director on individual
331	complaints, investigations or disciplinary actions.))
332	A. Using the process prescribed in K.C.C. 2.28.0015, the executive shall appoint,
333	subject to council confirmation, a citizens' committee on independent oversight to advise
334	the director of the office of law enforcement oversight, which is created under K.C.C.
335	chapter 2.75, on policies, procedures and practices relating to officer misconduct,

336 discipline and other responsibilities of the director of the office of law enforcement 337 oversight. 338 B. The committee shall include eleven members of the public who represent the 339 geographic, ethnic and economic diversity of the sheriff's service area. The committee 340 shall consist of three members representing cities that contract with the sheriff for law 341 enforcement services, four members shall represent unincorporated King County and four 342 members shall be selected at-large. The committee members shall be appointed for three-343 year terms, subject to reappointment for additional terms. 344 C. The committee shall make recommendations to the director regarding: 345 1. Misconduct and discipline policies, procedures and practices of the sheriff's 346 office; 347 2. Policies, procedures and practices related to other responsibilities of the 348 director of the office of law enforcement oversight; and 349 3. Public perceptions of the sheriff, the sheriff's deputies and their roles and 350 functions in the community. 351 D. The committee shall also serve as a means for the director of the office of law 352 enforcement oversight to communicate with King County's diverse communities. The 353 communication should increase accountability and public understanding of the 354 misconduct and discipline policies, procedures and practices of the sheriff's office and 355 other issues related to the director of the office of law enforcement oversight's 356 responsibilities. 357 E. The committee shall not review or advise the director of the office of law 358 enforcement oversight on individual complaints, investigations or disciplinary actions.

359 <u>SECTION 9.</u> Ordinance 15611, Section 10, and K.C.C. 2.20.037 are each hereby
360 amended to read as follows:

((A. The auditor shall establish a permanent ongoing law enforcement audit

((A. The auditor shall establish a permanent ongoing law enforcement audit process.

B. The auditor shall acquire an outside law enforcement expert to conduct an initial audit of the sheriff's office internal investigation operations and practices and subsequently thereafter provide for periodic review of the sheriff's office. These reviews should include at a minimum an annual written report to the council.

C. The auditor shall assess and review reports and recommendations from the office of law enforcement oversight that provide council directed oversight of the sheriff's office internal investigation unit. The auditor shall also review the effectiveness of the office of law enforcement oversight and make recommendations for reform when necessary.

D. The sheriff's office shall send any audits and reports produced under the sheriff's authority on investigation and complaint operations and performance to the King County auditor's office. The reports shall be transmitted in a timely manner. The county auditor shall review and consider the findings and recommendations of, and the sheriff's responses to, these reports when planning the auditor's annual work program for the review of the council, and shall conduct audits of internal investigation and complaint resolution operations as mandated in the auditor's annual work program. The auditor's independent authority to audit the sheriff's office shall not be replaced or otherwise affected by the creation of any audit or similar function within the sheriff's office.

381 E. To accomplish the purposes of this section, the auditor shall either hire 382 qualified personnel with expertise in law enforcement oversight or contract for 383 independent consulting services with appropriate expertise, or both.)) 384 A. The county auditor shall establish a permanent ongoing law enforcement audit 385 process. 386 B. The auditor shall acquire an outside law enforcement expert to conduct an 387 initial audit of the sheriff's office internal investigation operations and practices and 388 subsequently thereafter provide for periodic review of the sheriff's office. These reviews 389 should include at a minimum an annual written report to the council. 390 C. The auditor shall assess and review reports and recommendations from the 391 office of law enforcement oversight that provide council-directed oversight of the 392 sheriff's office internal investigation unit. The auditor shall also review the effectiveness 393 of the office of law enforcement oversight and make recommendations for reform when 394 necessary. 395 D. The sheriff's office shall send any audits and reports produced under the 396 sheriff's authority on investigation and complaint operations and performance to the 397 auditor's office. The reports shall be transmitted in a timely manner. The auditor shall 398 review and consider the findings and recommendations of, and the sheriff's responses to. 399 these reports when planning the auditor's annual work program for the review of the 400 council and shall conduct audits of internal investigation and complaint resolution 401 operations as mandated in the auditor's annual work program. The auditor's independent 402 authority to audit the sheriff's office shall not be replaced or otherwise affected by the 403 creation of any audit or similar function within the sheriff's office.

404 E. To accomplish the purposes of this section, the auditor shall either hire 405 qualified personnel with expertise in law enforcement oversight or contract for 406 independent consulting services with appropriate expertise, or both. 407 SECTION 10. Ordinance 15611, Section 11, is hereby amended to read as 408 follows: 409 ((A. The executive shall provide to the council monthly reports on the progress in 410 the selection process until a director of the office of independent oversight is confirmed. 411 After the director is confirmed, and until March 1, 2008, the director shall provide to the 412 council monthly reports on the status of establishing the activities of the office, including 413 the status of development of complaint receipt, tracking and investigation procedures and 414 processes, the identification of needed data tracking systems or support, systems for 415 ensuring the confidentiality of investigatory information, and any recommendations for 416 further legislation needed by the office to perform its duties. Twelve copies of each report 417 required under this section shall be filed with the clerk of the council. for distribution to 418 all councilmembers. 419 B. The director shall reconvene the King County sheriff's blue ribbon panel in 420 accordance with Motion 12337, by December 2007.)) After the director is confirmed, and 421 until the first annual report is submitted, the director shall provide to the council monthly 422 reports on the status of establishing the activities of the office, including the status of 423 development of complaint receipt, tracking and investigation procedures and processes, the 424 identification of needed data tracking systems or support, systems for ensuring the 425 confidentiality of investigatory information and any recommendations for further

<u>legislation</u> needed by the office to perform its duties. Twelve copies of each report

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35	bargaining agreement approved by Ordinance 16327.
34	EFFECT: Makes changes clarifying language to ensure compliance with collective
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32	agreement shall prevail."
131	conflict between the ordinance and a collective bargaining agreement, the provisions of the
130	County collective bargaining agreement approved by the council. In the event of any
129	SECTION 11. This ordinance is not intended to conflict with any applicable King
128	all councilmembers.
127	required under this section shall be filed with the clerk of the council, for distribution to