



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 2007-0481, **Version:** 2

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Clerk 09/24/2007

AN ORDINANCE relating to reorganization of the department of public safety;  
amending Ordinance 1438, Section 3(c), as amended, and K.C.C. 2.16.060 and  
adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter 3.16.

**PREAMBLE:**

State law allows a sheriff with a staff of five hundred one or more employees to have ten positions designated as unclassified service or exempt from the civil service system.

By the power granted in RCW 41.14.070(4), the county legislative authority may grant a sheriff up to twenty additional unclassified positions.

The King County sheriff's office currently has fourteen unclassified positions, which are exempt from the state civil service system for county sheriff's employees.

The positions of communications director, sheriff's aide and the chief of a newly proposed professional standards division in the sheriff's office have a close and confidential relationship with the sheriff.

While these positions are typically exempt from civil service rules, and fall within the type of positions that can be exempt from state civil service, they are not currently included in the positions designated by King County as unclassified and exempt from civil service rules.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:**

SECTION 1. Ordinance 1438, Section 3(c), as amended, and K.C.C. 2.16.060 are each hereby amended as follows:

A. The department of public safety, as identified in the Section 350.20.40 King County Charter, and

managed by the King County sheriff, may also be known and cited in the King County Code and in other usage as the office of the sheriff. Employees managed by the King County sheriff may be referred to in the King County Code or otherwise, as King County police, King County officer, or deputy sheriff.

B. The department of public safety is responsible to keep and preserve the public peace and safety including the discharge of all duties of the office of sheriff under State law, except those duties relating to jails and inmates which are performed by other departments of county government. The functions of the department include:

1. Oversee a crime prevention program, investigate crimes against persons and property and arrest alleged offenders.
2. Execute the processes and orders of the courts of justice and all other mandated functions required by law.
3. In coordination with the office of emergency management, plan and coordinate resources for the public safety and welfare in the event of a major emergency or disaster.
4. Provide service and administrative functions which support but do not duplicate other governmental activities, and which have the potential to be fiscally self-supportive.

C. ~~The ((department of public safety shall be composed of))~~ sheriff, to carry out the duties of the under subsection B. of this section, may establish the functions for the following divisions:

1. Office of the sheriff;
- ~~2. Field operations division((. The division of field operations shall be responsible for administering resources allocated to the functions of police patrol, general criminal investigation, crime prevention, traffic, and emergency management.));~~

~~((2.))~~ 3. Technical services division((. The division of technical services shall be responsible for administering resources allocated to the functions of:

- ~~a. civil process;~~

~~b. fiscal control;~~  
~~e. communications;~~  
~~d. records and identification; and~~  
~~e. property management, including evidence; stolen, lost or unclaimed property; and department equipment and supplies.));~~

~~((3-)) 4. Criminal investigation division((The division of criminal investigation shall be responsible for: administering resources allocated to the functions of major crimes investigation, narcotics investigation, gambling and vice investigation, criminal warrants service, and sundry criminal investigations not conducted in the field operations division.));~~

5. Special operations division; and

6. Professional standards division.

NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 3.16 a new section to read as follows:

A. By the power conferred upon the county legislative authority in RCW 41.14.070, the council authorizes the following number of positions as unclassified and exempt from the state civil service system for county sheriff's employees:

1. Office of the sheriff: five positions;
2. Field operations division: five positions;
3. Technical services division: two positions;
4. Criminal investigation division: two positions;
5. Special operations division: two positions; and
6. Professional standards division: one position.

B. RCW 41.14.070 grants the sheriff the ability to designate ten unclassified positions that are exempt from the state civil service system for sheriff's employees. By the power conferred upon the county legislative

authority in RCW 41.14.070(4), the

sheriff's office is authorized three additional unclassified positions for a total of twenty unclassified positions.