Motion: 25-523

Type:

**⊠**Contract

☐ Board Appt.

☐ Budget Action

## Committee of the Whole

Nicole Gorle

Council Initiated:

☐Yes

 $\boxtimes$ No

**Subject:** V **Subject:** V

Subject: Washington State – Indigent Defense Improvement Funds

Scope: Motion 25-523 would approve an agreement between the State Office

of Public Defense and Snohomish County, under which the State will provide the County with \$882,499.02 of indigent defense improvement funds for the purpose of improving the quality of legal representation.

The Agreement stipulates that the County will use the funds to add

additional attorneys to reduce public defense caseloads.

**<u>Duration:</u>** January 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026

**Requested Handling:** 

☐ Code Amendment

⊠Normal

Other

☐ Expedite

□Urgent

**Fund Source:** 

**⊠**General Fund

Other

□N/A

**Executive Rec:** 

☐ Do Not Approve

□N/A

Approved as to

Form:

□Yes

 $\boxtimes$  No – State

Contract

□N/A

Fiscal Impact: □ Current Year ☑ Multi-Year □ N/A

Expenditures	<b>Current Year</b>	2026	2027	2028	2029	Total
Fund 002		\$882,499.02				\$882,499.02
Total's		\$882,499.02				\$882,499.02

Revenue	<b>Current Year</b>	2026	2027	2028	2029	Total
Fund 002		\$882,499.02				\$882,499.02
Total's		\$882,499.02				\$882,499.02

**<u>Authority Granted:</u>** For the Executive to execute the agreement.

<u>Background:</u> Chapter 10.101 RCW established a grant program to improve public defense services within local jurisdictions of Washington State. The statute outlines a procedure for allocation and expenditure of these indigent defense improvement funds. If funds are set aside by the legislature for this purpose, jurisdictions can apply to the <u>Washington State Office of Public Defense</u> for a portion of these funds. The Snohomish County Office of Public Defense applied and has been awarded funding for 2026 (note, the state OPD is working to move grants to the state fiscal year cycle which is why this grant period is for six months instead of Jan-Dec like in prior years).

ECAF	Year	Duration	Award Amount
2022-1249	2023	01/01/23 - 12/31/23	\$429,925
2023-1396	2024	01/01/24 - 12/31/24	\$436,528
2024-2909	2025	01/01/25 – 12/31/25	\$451,616
2025-3505	2026	01/01/26 - 06/30/26	\$882,449.02

**Requested Action:** For Council to consider taking action.