



Committee of the Whole

Nicole Gorle

Council Initiated:

Yes

No

ECAF: 2026-1427

Motion: 26-235

Type:

- Contract
- Board Appt.
- Code Amendment
- Budget Action
- Other

Requested Handling:

- Normal
- Expedite - 6/17
- Urgent

Fund Source:

- General Fund
- Other
- N/A

Executive Rec:

- Approve
- Do Not Approve
- N/A

Approved as to

Form:

- Yes
- No – State Contract
- N/A

Subject: Washington State – Indigent Defense Improvement Funds

Scope: Motion 26-235 would approve an agreement between the State Office of Public Defense and Snohomish County, under which the State will provide the County with \$938,248.38 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.

Duration: July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

Fiscal Impact: Current Year Multi-Year N/A

Expenditures	Current Year	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total
Fund 002	\$469,124.19	\$469,124.19				\$938,248.38
Total's	\$469,124.19	\$469,124.19				\$938,248.38

Revenue	Current Year	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total
Fund 002	\$469,124.19	\$469,124.19				\$938,248.38
Total's	\$469,124.19	\$469,124.19				\$938,248.38

Authority Granted: For the Executive to execute the agreement.

Background: [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 [Washington State Office of Public Defense](#) for a portion of these funds. The Snohomish County Office of Public Defense applied and has been awarded funding. This is the first agreement under the new timeframe, moving from funding by calendar years to the state fiscal year cycle.

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
2026-1427	<i>2026-27</i>	<i>07/01/26 – 06/30/26</i>	<i>\$938,248.38</i>

Requested Action: For Council to consider taking action.