



## Snohomish County Council

**Committee:** LJHS  
**ECAF:** 23-0143  
**Proposal:** Mot. 23-078

**Analyst:** Heidi Beazizo  
**Date:** February 15, 2023

### **Consideration**

The Executive's Office requests Council consider approving proposed Motion 23-078 which would approve and authorize the execution of an agreement for guardianship related indigent legal services.

### **Background**

On April 6, 2019, the Washington Legislature passed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5604 (2SSB 5604), the Uniform Guardianship, Conservatorship and Other Protective Arrangements Act with an effective date of January 1, 2021. The updated Revised Code of Washington ([RCW 11.130.200\(5\)\(c\)](#)) requires the court to appoint an attorney to represent an indigent parent of minor who is the subject of a proceeding that includes a petition for appointment of a guardian for the minor. ([RCW 11.130.190](#)).

The Office of Public Defense coordinates the delivery of indigent defense services in guardianship related cases.

### **Current Proposal**

*Scope:* Approval Motion 23-078 would approve the execution of an agreement between the County and Solutions Legal Group, PLLC to provide representation to indigent defendants in guardianship related cases; each motion also authorizes the County Executive to sign any amendments. Scope of Services is outlined in Schedule A. Compensation details are outlined in Schedule B.

*Duration:* January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Extension period of two (2) additional one (1) year terms. Termination is allowed with thirty (30) days' written notice.

*Fiscal Implications:* Unknown. Agreements are for an hourly rate of \$125.00 per hour based on assigned cases with an initial maximum of twenty-five (25) hours per case. Section 3 indicates the County's obligations after December 31, 2023 are contingent upon appropriation of necessary funds.

**2022 Budget:** YES.

**Future Budget Impacts:** YES.

**Handling:** EXPEDITE.

**Approved-as-to-form:** YES.

**Risk Management:** YES.

**Executive Recommendation:** YES

**Request:** Move motion to GLS on March 1<sup>st</sup> for Council to consider taking action.