



Snohomish County Council

Committee: LJHS
ECAF: 2022-0264
Proposal: Motion 22-116

Analyst: Heidi Beazizo
Date: March 22, 2022

Consideration:

Motion 22-116 requests Council's consideration of an agreement transferring retired K-9 Ronin to a Sheriff's Office employee for the remainder of his life.

Background

The Snohomish County Sheriff's Office has trained police canines that are used to assist them in their work. When these K-9's reach the end of their useful life as a police K-9 they are retired and sometimes adopted. Police K-9's go through special training and upon retirement require care by someone who knows how to appropriately handle the K-9.

Ronin has reached his useful time as a police K-9, retired from service, and a Snohomish County Sheriff's Office employee would like to adopt Ronin for the remainder of his life. Sheriff Office K-9's are considered personal property of the County and County Code does not provide direction on the sale or transfer of a K-9 or the transfer of personal property to a County employee.¹ Because of this a contract, or agreement, is used for the transfer of the dog and must be approved by Council.

The agreement outlines the risk that comes with adopting a trained police canine and states that the 'Buyer' is aware of the risk and assumes liability for anything that happens in relation to Ronin from the date of his transfer and thereafter. The agreement also specifically states that the 'Buyer' waives any claims of liability against the County should they arise out of owning Ronin.

Current Proposal

Scope: Motion 22-116 approves the release and indemnity agreement and the associated transfer for Sheriff's Office K-9 Ronin.

Duration: Agreement effective date is February 15, 2022

Fiscal Implications: None. There is no revenue from this transfer as the K-9 is a trained police dog, requiring special handling.

2021 Budget: N/A

Future Budget Impacts: N/A

Handling: Normal

Approved-as-to-form: YES

Risk Management: APPROVE.

¹[SCC 4.46.141\(8\)](#) – Personal Property – Disposition of Surplus Property

Executive Recommendation: APPROVE.

Analysis: Consistent with code and prior actions

Attachments: NONE

Amendments: NONE

Request: Move to GLS on March 30, 2022 for Council to consider taking action.