



## Snohomish County Council

**Committee:** COW  
**ECAF:** 23-0618  
**Proposal:** Mot. 23-231

**Analyst:** Heidi Beazizo  
**Date:** June 2, 2023

### **Consideration**

Motion 23-231 makes an appointment to the Snohomish County District Court to fill a vacancy in the Cascade Electoral District.

### **Background**

On November 9, 2022, Council adopted the 2023 Budget via [Ordinance 22-059](#) approving six months of funding for a new District Court Judge in the Cascade District of the Snohomish County District Court.

On March 30, 2023, the Governor signed [Senate Bill 5003](#), approving the addition of an additional judge in Snohomish County and amending RCW [3.34.010](#).

Subsequently, the Council adopted [Ordinance 23-028](#), amending [SCC 2.12.070](#), increasing the number of judges by one (1) in the Cascade District.

[RCW 3.34.100](#) states that it is the responsibility of the Snohomish County Council to fill a vacancy on the Snohomish County District Court Bench.

The Council announced the vacancy on April 26, 2023 requesting that interested parties submit a resume and letter of interest by May 17, 2023.

Council received applications from two (2) individuals who met the qualifications set forward in [RCW 3.34.060](#).

On May 31, 2023, Council selected two (2) candidates to move forward to the interview stage of the appointment process; interviews are set for June 15, 2023. Those candidates are Jennifer DeJong and Rachelle Francis.

### **Current Proposal**

*Scope:* Motion 23-231 would approve an appointment to the pending judge vacancy the Cascade Electoral District with an effective date of July 24, 2023, immediately following the effective date of Senate Bill 5003 (July 23, 2023). After Council interviews and selects a candidate, a verbal motion will be made to insert the selected candidate's name into this motion prior to final action.

*Duration:* The appointee will fill the vacancy until the next general election in 2024 and until a successor is elected and qualified, pursuant to RCW 3.34.100.

**Handling:** NORMAL

**Approved-as-to-form:** N/A

**Request:** Move this motion to June 14, 2023 Special Meeting. Following the interviews, and at the direction of Council, move to Council to add in the appointee's name and consider the motion.