

**RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT IN EXCHANGE FOR
TRANSFER OF POLICE SERVICE DOG**

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 28th day of July 2025 by and between SNOHOMISH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE (County), a political subdivision of the State of Washington, hereinafter referred to as the County, and Joshua Holmes, an individual, hereinafter referred to as "the Buyer," recognizes that the parties agree as follows:

- I. PURPOSE. The purpose of this agreement is to permit the County, through its Sheriff's Office, to transfer one (1) German Shepherd dog known as "K-9 Doc" to the Buyer in a manner that ensures the County will not incur liability for the dog's care, condition, or actions after it is delivered.
- II. ACCEPTANCE. By signing this agreement, the Buyer hereby accepts and acknowledges delivery of K-9 Doc from the County.
- III. ASSUMPTION OF RISK / AGREEMENT TO INDEMNIFY. The Buyer recognizes that K-9 Doc is a police service dog that has received training in police canine apprehension/patrol procedures and tactics, including but not limited to sniffing of inanimate objects with an aggressive response by scratching aggressively or biting. K-9 Doc is training to apprehend people, tracking of people and biting people. As a result of such training and use as a police service dog, or for other reasons, K-9 Doc may pose a risk of causing serious injury and/or death and/or property damage. The Buyer agrees that he or she has had the opportunity to review all available information from the County regarding K-9 Doc, and that the Buyer has consulted a veterinarian or other professional as deemed necessary to decide whether to accept K-9 Doc under the terms of this agreement.

In consideration of the County transferring K-9 Doc to the Buyer, the Buyer on behalf of himself, his spouse, children, parents, guardians, heirs, next of kin, legal representatives, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, hereby agrees to assume all risks and to waive any and all claims of liability against the County, its elected and appointed officials, officers, employees and agents that arise out of the Buyer's ownership, use and/or possession of K-9 Doc.

The Buyer on behalf of himself, his spouse, children, parents, guardians, heirs, next of kin, legal representatives, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, hereby further agrees to protect, save harmless, indemnify, and defend, at his own expense, the County, its elected and appointed officials, officers, employees, and agents, from and against any loss or claim for damage of any nature whatsoever, including costs and reasonable attorney fees, relating to the condition, care, or acts of K-9 Doc after the date of delivery under this agreement.

The foregoing paragraph is not intended to indemnify the County against liability for those damages solely caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the County or its employees acting within the scope of their employment, or to indemnify the County against liability for acts of K-9 Doc that occurred before the date of delivery. In all other respects, the indemnity is intended to be as broad and as inclusive as is permitted by the law of the State of Washington, and if any portion or aspect of it is held invalid or unenforceable, it is agreed that the balance shall continue in full legal force and effect.

- IV. NO WARRANTY. Buyer expressly acknowledges and agrees that the transfer of K-9 Doc is made without warranty of any kind, either express or implied. It is understood by the Buyer that the County makes no representation concerning the health or disposition of K-9 Doc, which is transferred in an "as is" condition, and the Buyer assumes all responsibility and obligation for the condition, care, and acts of K-9 Doc after the date of delivery.
- V. VENUE AND ATTORNEY FEES. The laws of the State of Washington shall govern this agreement, and any lawsuit regarding this agreement must be brought in Snohomish County, Washington. In any lawsuit brought to enforce the terms of this agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to costs and reasonable attorney fees.
- VI. CAPACITY. The Buyer acknowledges and agrees that he or she is at least eighteen (18) years of age and legally competent to sign this agreement.
- VII. SIGNATURE / ENTIRE AGREEMENT. The Buyer has read and voluntarily signs this agreement, acknowledges full understanding of its contents, and agrees that no oral representations, statements or inducements apart from the foregoing written agreement have been made.

BUYER

DATE: _____

SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Dave Somers, County Executive
DATE: _____

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:

Susanna Johnson, Sheriff
DATE: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Downs, Lyndsey
Digitally signed by Downs, Lyndsey
Date: 2025.10.06 12:22:46 -07'00'
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
DATE: _____

Risk Management
DATE: _____