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Dave Somers
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 19, 2023
To: Council Chair Jared Mead
From: County Executive Dave Somers
Re: **Appointment of Charles Wichert to the Ethics Commission**

I am pleased to nominate Charles Wichert for appointment to the Snohomish County Ethics Commission. Charles will fill one of two currently vacant positions on the five-person commission. Per SCC 2.50.080, seats on the Ethics Commission are nominated by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council.

The purpose of the Snohomish County Ethics Commission is to receive complaints of ethics violations and otherwise administer the Code of Ethics. Additionally, other duties prescribed to the commission include:

- (a) Act as the primary determining body for complaints regarding ethics violation;
- (b) Make provisions for the preservation of files, statements, correspondence and records of proceedings for a period of seven years;
- (c) Make provisions for the appearance and participation of complainants and respondents at commission proceedings, including, when necessary, the issuance of subpoenas of witnesses, and receive all testimony under oath;
- (d) Develop and implement additional rules and procedures as the commission deems necessary, subject to approval by the county council.

Charles Wichert has skill and experience serving the community in governmental and public policy capacity. Charles has demonstrated a commitment to understand and uphold ethics at the State Legislative level.

Pursuant to SCC 2.03.030, I urge the Council's confirmation of Charles Wichert's appointment to the Ethics Commission to complete a vacated term that expires June 30, 2023, and with eligibility to serve two additional three-year terms.