

Champ Thomaskutty, MPH, Director Amy Harley, MD, MPH, Co-Health Officer Meghan Lelonek, MD, Co-Health Officer

Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Charlene Ramont, Assistant Director

RE: San Juan County – Veteran Service Officer Support Interlocal Agreement

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2025

Attached is an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and San Juan County for your review and signature.

Background and Purpose

This agreement provides revenue to support the provision of services and support from Whatcom County's Veteran Service Officers (VSO) to San Juan County resident veterans, as San Juan County does not have an accredited VSO.

VSOs are trained and accredited by the VA or other recognized organizations to aid veterans, their dependents, and survivors. This includes applying for federal and state benefits, and providing information on resources related to compensation and pensions, health care, education and training, employment, burial and survivor benefits, housing, transportation, and military records.

Funding Amount and Source

San Juan County will reimburse Whatcom County at a rate of \$200/initial claim and \$100/subsequent claim submitted to the Federal VA by Whatcom County's VSO. Revenue will not exceed \$10,000, annually. Council authorization is required per RCW 39.34.030(2) for agreements between public agencies.

Differences from Previous Contracts

This is a new agreement; however, funding for these activities has been provided through previous agreements since 2021. This agreement includes no revisions from the agreement ending on 12/31/2025 (WC Contract #202110023).

Please contact Amanda Burnett, Human Services Supervisor at 360-778-6069 (<u>ABurnett@co.whatcom.wa.us</u>) if you have any questions.

