

PROPOSED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
INTRODUCTION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2.108 OF THE WHATCOM COUNTY CODE REGARDING THE BELLINGHAM-WHATCOM COUNTY COMMISSION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THE COMMISSION TO INCLUDE ADDRESSING BOTH DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE, AND REFERRING DETAILS OF THIS JOINT UNDERTAKING TO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Bellingham-Whatcom County Commission Against Domestic Violence was created in 1998 by Ordinance No. 98-072 and codified as Chapter 2.108 of the Whatcom County Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has voted in the affirmative to expand its mission to include ending sexual violence; and

**WHEREAS**, the Whatcom County Council finds that it is appropriate to codify the expanded scope of the Commission and utilize an interlocal agreement with the City of Bellingham to provide for the ongoing functions, composition, anticipated funding sources, and staffing of the Commission.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Whatcom County Council that chapter 2.108 of the Whatcom County Code is hereby amended as set forth in the attached Exhibit A.

**ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

**ATTEST:**

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rud Browne, Council Chair

WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen N. Frakes  
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Louws  
County Executive

( ) Approved ( ) Denied

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter 2.108  
COMMISSION AGAINST ON DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sections:

- 2.108.010 Created.
- 2.108.020 Purpose.
- 2.108.030 Functions.
- ~~2.108.040 Composition.~~
- 2.108.040 Organization – Meetings
- ~~2.108.050 Organization – Meetings.~~

2.108.010 Created and Sustained.

The Bellingham-Whatcom County ~~commission against domestic violence is created.~~ Commission Against Domestic Violence was created in 1998 by ordinances adopted by the Bellingham City Council and the Whatcom County Council. The Whatcom County Council affirms the important work of the commission, confirms the expanded scope of the commission, and recognizes the commission as a joint undertaking by the City and Whatcom County. As a joint undertaking between the City and Whatcom County, the ongoing work of the commission will be supported through an interlocal agreement between the City and Whatcom County. Additional government agencies may become parties to the interlocal agreement as appropriate. The name of the commission shall be the City of Bellingham-Whatcom County Commission on Domestic & Sexual Violence.

2.108.020 Purpose.

The purpose of the commission is to provide leadership in the community's effort to ~~reduce and prevent domestic violence.~~ address domestic and sexual violence. The purpose of the commission will be further detailed in the interlocal agreement with the City of Bellingham.

2.108.030 Functions, Operation, and Composition.

The functions of the commission ~~shall be:~~, including data collection, researching best practices, development of tools, providing training, obtaining financial and other resources, and advising local agencies, will be further outlined and detailed in an interlocal agreement providing for cooperation and coordination with Whatcom County. The guidelines for operation and the specific composition of the commission will be further detailed in the interlocal agreement.

- ~~A. Develop and implement a coordinated comprehensive domestic violence plan that is monitored, evaluated and updated on a regular basis.~~
- ~~B. Promote coordination and increase collaboration of institutions, systems and services as they respond to offenders, victims, children and others who have been impacted by domestic violence.~~
- ~~C. Increase community awareness and understanding about domestic violence.~~
- ~~D. Serve as an advisory board to local government agencies and the community with respect to domestic violence issues.~~
- ~~E. Develop community benchmarks for monitoring domestic violence and prepare an annual report.~~
- ~~F. Serve as a community forum on domestic violence and create a mechanism for identifying issues, concerns, needs and resources. (Ord. 98-072 § 1).~~

1  
2 ~~2.108.040 Composition.~~  
3 ~~A. The commission shall consist of up to 28 members. The following officials shall be~~  
4 ~~designated government representatives on the commission.~~  
5  
6 ~~1. Whatcom County prosecutor;~~  
7  
8 ~~2. Whatcom County sheriff;~~  
9  
10 ~~3. Bellingham police chief;~~  
11  
12 ~~4. Bellingham city attorney;~~  
13  
14 ~~5. Bellingham municipal court administrator;~~  
15  
16 ~~6. One Whatcom County court administrator selected by the county court administrators;~~  
17  
18 ~~7. Whatcom County director of health and human services;~~  
19  
20 ~~8. Whatcom County public defender;~~  
21  
22 ~~9. Whatcom County director of district court probation;~~  
23  
24 ~~10. A designated representative from the Department of Social and Health Services Division~~  
25 ~~of Children and Family Services;~~  
26  
27 ~~11. A designated representative from the Department of Social and Health Services~~  
28 ~~Community Service Office;~~  
29  
30 ~~12. One chief executive officer or a designated representative from the cities in Whatcom~~  
31 ~~County other than Bellingham selected by a majority vote of the eligible chief executive~~  
32 ~~officers;~~  
33  
34 ~~13. One police chief from the cities in Whatcom County other than Bellingham selected by a~~  
35 ~~majority vote of the eligible police chiefs;~~  
36  
37 ~~14. One superintendent from the school districts in Whatcom County selected by a majority~~  
38 ~~vote of the eligible superintendents.~~  
39  
40 ~~B. Additional members shall be selected by the mayor and the county executive from among~~  
41 ~~members of the community who have an interest in, or are impacted by, domestic violence.~~  
42 ~~The mayor and county executive shall each appoint seven members to include the following:~~  
43  
44 ~~1. One domestic violence victims service provider;~~  
45  
46 ~~2. Two human services providers, including, but not limited to, educators, victim or offender~~  
47 ~~services, clergy or religious leaders and early childhood education providers;~~  
48  
49 ~~3. One representative of a major employer;~~  
50  
51 ~~4. One health care provider;~~  
52  
53 ~~5. Two representatives from the community at large.~~

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27

~~C. The county executive appointment shall be subject to confirmation by a majority of the county council as per Section 3.23 of the Whatcom County Charter.~~

~~D. In selecting members of the commission the mayor and county executive shall attempt to reflect the racial, ethnic, economic and geographical diversity of the community and to ensure the participation of at least one survivor of domestic violence.~~

~~E. Terms of the nongovernment members, and of those government members selected by majority vote of designated groups, shall be four years; provided, that the terms of those nongovernment members first appointed shall be staggered so that two members shall be appointed for one year, four members shall be appointed for two years, four members shall be appointed for three years and four members shall be appointed for four years. Members may be reappointed. Members may be removed by the appointing authority. Each member shall continue to serve until a successor has been appointed. (Ord. 2008-029 Exh. A; Ord. 2005-001; Ord. 2000-041; Ord. 98-072 § 1).~~

~~2.108.050~~ **2.108.040** Organization – Meetings.  
Meetings of the commission shall be open and accessible to the public. The commission shall determine its own meeting schedule but shall meet at least once each quarter. Written records of meetings, resolutions, findings and recommendations shall be kept and such records shall be public. The commission shall adopt its own rules and procedures which shall be public record. The city and county shall provide funding for the commission as the city and county deem necessary for the commission to perform its duties. The commission shall elect a chairperson from among its members who shall preside at its meetings. (Ord. 98-072 § 1).