



## Whatcom County Public Defender's Office

*We listen. We care. We fight.*

Starck Follis, Director

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### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** June 27, 2024

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu  
Whatcom County Executive

Whatcom County Finance and Administrative Services Committee

**FROM:** Julie Wiles  
Office Administrator, Public Defender's Office

**RE:** 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment to contract #202403028, Tolin Law Firm

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#### ▪ **Background and Purpose**

This contract amendment is for the purpose of changing the amount of contract #202403028 from \$39,999.00 to \$50,000.00. We propose to add \$10,001.00 to the original contract between Whatcom County and Tolin Law Firm. We are contracting with Tolin Law to handle the preparation and completion of the resentencing hearing in the matter of State v. Ryan Eugene Alexander, cause #02-1000527-9.

This matter is an Aggravated Murder in the First Degree that resulted in a Life Sentence (mandatory) in 2002. The US Supreme Court ruled several years ago that defendants under the age of 18 are entitled to be resentenced taking their youth into account. These cases require a great deal of time and expert assistance.

#### ▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

We propose to continue to utilize funding from our Department's ARPA cost center (2662) to pay for this expenditure, in the total amount of \$50,000.00.

I have enclosed 2 originals for contract #202403028-1 for review and signature by the Whatcom County Executive after County Council approval.