

**WHATCOM COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER**  
*We listen. We care. We fight.*

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Sydney Miyahara  
Eleanor R. White  
Eric Mapes  
Saybin Shankman  
Nathaniel L.J. Freimund

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** November 17, 2023

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu  
Whatcom County Executive  
  
Whatcom County Council Members

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

**RE:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment to: RALJ Appeal Contract #202306007

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▪ **Background and Purpose**

The RALJ appeals are cases where clients who have been convicted in District Court on misdemeanor charges request to appeal the District Court decision up to the Superior Court level. We currently have 5 cases already being handled by Stephen Jackson Law, PLLC, but we propose to add two more cases this month and we project three more appeals will be filed by the end of 2023 for a possible total of 10 cases.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

We propose to continue to pay \$2,000.00 per case for each appeal. The Funding source for this 2<sup>nd</sup> amended contract comes from the professional services account in our department's ARPA cost center 2662 which was funded/approved by the Whatcom County Council on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

I have enclosed 2 originals for contract #202306007-2 for review and signature by the Whatcom County Executive after County Council approval.