



Whatcom County Public Defender's Office

We listen. We care. We fight.

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 25, 2024

TO: Satpal Sidhu
Whatcom County Executive

Whatcom County Council Members

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

RE: SPAR Program Funding Agreement for Simple Possession Advocacy

▪ **Background and Purpose**

The purpose of this agreement is to provide reimbursement to Whatcom County (recipient) for the cost of providing defense counsel consultation and representation for defendants facing charges or charged with simple possession or public use offenses under RCW 69.50.4011(1)(b) or (c), RCW 69.50.4013, RCW 69.50.4014 or RCW 69.41.030(1), or under local ordinances involving allegations of possession or public use of a controlled substance, counterfeit substance, or legend drugs, consistent with Second Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5536, Chapter 1, sec.35, sec. 39, Laws of 2023.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

The funding source is the Washington State Office of Public Defense Simple Possession Advocacy and Representation (SPAR) Program Funding, in the amount of \$183,635.00.

Please contact Starck Follis at ext. 5648 or Julie Wiles at ext. 5646 if you have any questions.