



ERIC J. RICHEY

WHATCOM COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Erik K. Sigmar, Chief Criminal Deputy
Dona Bracke, Assistant Chief Criminal Deputy
Christopher Quinn, Chief Civil Deputy
Hilary Thomas, Chief of Staff

MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu
Whatcom County Executive

Whatcom County Council Members

FROM: Hilary A. Thomas
Chief of Staff
Whatcom County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

RE: Contract with Axon Enterprises, Inc. for Body Worn Camera
and other Media Storage and Redaction and Transcription Services

DATE: October 28, 2025

Please find enclosed the proposed agreement between Whatcom County and Axon Enterprises, Inc. (Axon) for a five year subscription so that the Prosecutor's Office can continue to store and access body worn camera and other media and use Axon's transcription and redaction services.

Background and Purpose:

Axon has been providing our office a complimentary version of the software program "Axon Justice" for approximately the past four years. Almost all law enforcement agencies in Whatcom County use "Axon Evidence" to store their body worn camera and other digital evidence on a cloud-based platform. The program permits our office to access what has become voluminous amounts of body worn camera and other media evidence stored by law enforcement. Our access to this stored evidence is an essential part of the legal discovery process and permits us to share this evidence seamlessly with the Public Defender's Offices and other defense counsel. Our County network does not have the capacity to store this kind of evidence, and our office would be significantly, negatively impacted in terms of staff time and resources if we had to manage this evidence without our current version of the program.

About a year ago Axon did an audit of the scope of the program we have been utilizing free of charge and realized they were providing some features that are not part of the complimentary subscription. They informed us that we had to choose to revert to the complimentary "Basic"

subscription or begin paying for the enhanced “Axon Justice Premier” subscription. The Axon Justice Premier version would permit us to continue to access the voluminous amount of stored digital evidence in an efficient manner and use its transcription and redaction services.

This contract is subject to the terms of the State of Washington Department of Enterprise Services Master Agreement, Washington Contract No. 05720.

Funding:

This five year contract is structured as follows: \$24,257.95 (including tax) for the initial year (2026), \$59,646.83 for years 2027 and 2028, and \$79,517.97 and \$79,517.93 for years 2029 and 2030, respectively. The total amount of the five year contract is 302,587.51.

The Prosecutor’s Office has not previously requested funding for this type of software program because Axon previously provided us a complimentary subscription. The Public Defender’s Office currently has a similar software subscription contract with Axon.

Our office has submitted a Supplemental Budget Request (No. 5027) for the first year of this contract, which would start in 2026. The contract includes a “Termination for Funding Insufficiency” clause in the contract should the County be unable to provide the requisite funding for subsequent years.

Please contact Hilary Thomas at x5764 if there are any questions about the terms of this contract.