

**WHATCOM COUNTY
EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE**

County Courthouse
311 Grand Avenue, Suite #108
Bellingham, WA 98225-4082



Jack Louws
County Executive

TO: Brad Bennett, Finance Manager
FROM: Gayle Isaac, Law Library Operations
RE: Sole source designation for West subscription
DATE: May 23, 2019

Attached please find a two-year new contract for the Law Library's West subscription, along with a cover letter for Executive Louws with details on funding sources and differences from the previous contract.

West was previously designated as a sole source provider at the time of our contract renewal in 2015 and again at the time of the contract renewal in 2018. This designation would still apply for the same reasons previously cited. West Publishing, which is a division of Thomson Reuters, Inc. a Canadian corporation, has been designated as a sole source provider for web-based, legal research since June of 2004. By way of background information, West is considered the foremost provider of integrated information solutions to the U.S. legal market and has been doing so for more than 137 years. While there are other on-line research tools, West is the only company that can provide the treatises/series that are critical to our legal practice. The following is a partial list of the exclusive (proprietary) content we have access to through our current subscriber agreement: Washington Practice, Annotated Revised Code of Washington, Washington Digest, Pacific Reporter and McQuillin Municipal Corporations.

We request that West again be designated a sole source provider because these databases and hardcopy sources are only available from West.

Thank you.

Approved: _____


Brad Bennett, Finance Manager