

December 20, 1989  
1888H:CH:m1s

INTRODUCED BY: Ron Sims  
Gary Grant

PROPOSED NO.: 89-908

MOTION NO. 7792

A MOTION directing the Executive and District Court to organize a centralized program for collection of District Court fines, fees and penalties.

WHEREAS, the warrants division, formerly known as the division of bails, fines and penalty collection, has been disbanded by the district court, and

WHEREAS, the former warrants division director has been transferred to the office of finance, and

WHEREAS, the King County council has transferred the functions and responsibilities for collecting fines, fees and monetary penalties resulting from action taken by the district court to the office of finance in Ordinance 9283, and

WHEREAS, approximately 85,000 delinquent cases currently exist for an amount in excess of \$10 million dollars, and

WHEREAS, there is an ongoing caseload of time payment agreements and additional delinquent accounts, and

WHEREAS, the success of the new fines, fees and penalty collection section in the office of finance will require close coordination and cooperation between the office of finance and the district court, and

WHEREAS, collection of district court fines, fees and penalties which have become delinquent is essential to the maintenance of the court's credibility and fairness to the people of King County, and

WHEREAS, fines, fees and penalties include criminal violations, criminal traffic violations, and traffic infractions, and

1           WHEREAS, a centralized collection of time payment agreements  
2 for criminal violations, criminal traffic violations and traffic  
3 infractions as well as centralized collection enforcement on  
4 Failure to Respond (FTR) notices will promote efficient  
5 collection and consistent and timely notification and collection  
6 practices, and

7           WHEREAS, currently the district court is conducting no direct  
8 collection effort relating to time payment agreements, and

9           WHEREAS, currently the district court does not conduct  
10 follow-up and collection enforcement action following  
11 notification to the state department of licensing of unpaid  
12 infractions, and

13           WHEREAS, access to the DISCIS system which can be utilized in  
14 collection efforts is available in the King County courthouse, and

15           WHEREAS, the office of financial management currently handles  
16 district court probation payment notifications and collections,  
17 and

18           WHEREAS, the state department of licensing only influences  
19 enforcement of collection in four-year intervals at the date of  
20 driver's license renewal and has only limited influence on  
21 collection, and

22           WHEREAS, actual notice and follow-up is needed to effect  
23 collection;

24           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

25           A. The office of financial management (OFM) shall establish  
26 a centralized collection program to collect outstanding revenue  
27 from criminal violations, criminal traffic violations and traffic  
28 violations.  
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31  
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1 B. OFM and council staff shall jointly recommend a program  
2 and proposed method for implementation which includes a  
3 demonstration project to the council by January 31, 1990 or  
4 earlier if possible.

5 PASSED this 2nd day of January, 19 90.

6 KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
7 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

8 Lois North  
9 Chair

10 ATTEST:

11 J Crawford II  
12

13 Clerk of the Council