



**Signature Report**

**Ordinance 18961**

**Proposed No.** 2019-0210.1

**Sponsors** Lambert, Gossett, Dunn,  
Upthegrove, Balducci, Kohl-Welles,  
McDermott and von Reichbauer

1           AN ORDINANCE naming the Children and Family Justice  
2           Center Building the Judge Patricia H. Clark Children Family  
3           Justice Center Building, in honor of the late Patricia H. Clark,  
4           Superior Court Judge and revered community member; and  
5           naming the new building's resource center the Justice Bobbe J.  
6           Bridge Resource Center, in honor of Washington State Supreme  
7           Court Justice (retired) Bobbe J. Bridge, courageous juvenile  
8           justice services leader.

9           BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

10          SECTION 1. Findings:

11          A. The Honorable Patricia H. Clark served as a King County Superior Court Judge for  
12 sixteen years, having first been appointed in 1998 and then elected to serve three additional terms.  
13 During that time she earned the respect and admiration of children and families, employees and  
14 elected officials in all levels of government. Judge Patricia Clark used the power and the  
15 possibility of the judicial system to improve the lives of children, adolescents and their families.

16          B. Judge Clark served as the Chief Judge of the Juvenile Division of the King County  
17 Superior Court from 2002-2007. Judge Clark cochaired the King County Disproportionality  
18 Committee and cochaired the State of Washington's Committee on Racial Disproportionality.  
19 Judge Clark led the implementation of the Dependency Family Treatment Court, and was  
20 instrumental in implementing the Reclaiming Futures Treatment Court and the Family Treatment

21 Court. She also served as a member of the Superior Court Judges Association Board of Trustees  
22 and the Superior Court Judges Association Family Juvenile Law Committee.

23 C. Judge Clark was honored with: the Vanguard Award from the King County  
24 Washington Women Lawyers; the 2005 Voices for Children Award from the Washington State  
25 Children's Alliance; and the Trailblazer Award from the National Black Prosecutors Association.  
26 Judge Clark was a strong advocate of prevention programs to keep young people out of the  
27 detention system and of strengthening families. As a result of her leadership, the number of  
28 incarcerated youth dropped drastically during her time as Chief Juvenile Court Judge.

29 D. Judge Clark was passionate in her belief that children and families must be treated  
30 with the utmost respect when interacting with the juvenile justice system and that services should  
31 be available within the Children and Family Justice Center. The new Children and Family Justice  
32 Center will be a place where children and families may readily access services, all aimed at  
33 helping children and families avoid future contact with the juvenile justice system.

34 F. The Honorable Bobbe J. Bridge served as a King County Superior Court Judge for ten  
35 years, including two years as Presiding Judge and four years as Chief Judge of the King County  
36 Juvenile Court. In 1999, she was appointed to the Washington State Supreme Court. Upon her  
37 retirement from the bench she served as founding President and Chief Executive Officer of the  
38 Center for Children and Youth Justice. The Center assists parents, advocates, judges, legislators,  
39 service providers, policy makers and professionals to improve the future for youth involved in the  
40 child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

41 G. Justice Bridge's tireless leadership to improve the lives of children and families is also  
42 reflected in her service as Co-Chair for the Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster  
43 Care, Chair of the Domestic Violence/Child Maltreatment Statewide Protocol Project and Chair  
44 of the State BECCA Taskforce, which focuses on truancy prevention. Justice Bridge was key to  
45 establishing Unified Family Court in King County, and its expansion to other courts. Justice

46 Bridge helped establish a child care facility at the Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent, the  
47 first court-based child care center in the Pacific Northwest. Justice Bridge's leadership in  
48 developing the Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan created a road map for significant King  
49 County progress on juvenile justice issues.

50 H. Justice Bridge is recognized throughout the community for her dedication and  
51 advocacy for Washington's children. Among her many awards, she received the David W.  
52 Soukoup "Speak Up for a Child" Award from the Washington State Association of Court  
53 Appointed Special Advocates and Guardian Ad Litem; Jurist of the Year Award from the  
54 Washington State Bar Association Family Law Section; and Judge of the Year Award from the  
55 King County Bar Association.

56 I. Justice Bridge is passionate in her belief that, when children and families are provided  
57 appropriate resources and opportunities, our community's children and family thrive. The new  
58 Children and Family Justice Center will be home to those critical services.

59 SECTION 2. We do hereby honor King County Superior Court Judge Patricia H. Clark  
60 by naming the Children and Family Justice Center as the Judge Patricia H. Clark Children and  
61 Family Justice Center; and Washington State Supreme Court Justice Bobbe J. Bridge by naming

62 the Children and Family Justice Center Resource Center as the Justice Bobbe J. Bridge Resource  
63 Center.

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Ordinance 18961 was introduced on 5/15/2019 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 7/24/2019, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn,  
Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles  
and Ms. Balducci



KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Rod Dembowski, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 31 day of July, 2019.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

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CLERK  
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

Attachments: None