

ORDINANCE NO. 00444

1 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING A PORTION OF SECTION 6, KING COUNTY  
2 ORDINANCE NO. 204, RELATING TO COUNTY PUBLIC OFFICERS  
3 AND EMPLOYEES; PROHIBITING ACTS RESULTING IN CONFLICT OF  
4 INTEREST; ESTABLISHING A CODE OF ETHICS FOR KING COUNTY  
5 OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES; AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES.

6 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

7 Section 1. Section 6 KING COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 00204 IS  
8 HEREBY AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

9 JURISDICTION. There is hereby created a Board of Ethics,  
10 composed of three members, one to be appointed by the County Exec-  
11 utive, one to be appointed by ~~((two-thirds-vote-of-the-County~~  
12 ~~Council-and-the-third))~~ the County Executive from a list of nominees  
13 submitted by the County Council and one, who shall be the chairman,  
14 to be appointed ~~(( by-the-other-two-members))~~ by the County Execu-  
15 tive from a list of nominees submitted by the other two members and  
16 all appointments are to be confirmed by the County Council. The  
17 terms of the Board members shall be three years. The first three  
18 members shall be appointed for one, two and three year terms respec-  
19 tively. The chairman shall have a three year term, the other terms  
20 are to be determined by lot. A member of the Board of Ethics may  
21 be removed for just cause by a two-thirds vote by the County Council,  
22 but not the County Executive, after written charges have been served  
23 on a member and a public hearing has been held by the County Council.  
24 The Board shall be advisory and shall meet as frequently as it  
25 deems necessary. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum.  
26 Meetings shall be open or closed to the public at the discretion of  
27 the Board.

28 Whenever requested by a County officer or employee or whenever  
29 it deems it in the public interest, the Board shall render advisory  
30 opinions, in writing, concerning questions of ethics, conflicts of  
31 interest, and the applicability of this ordinance. A written copy  
32 of the Board's opinion shall be delivered to the person requesting  
the opinion. The Board may publish their advisory opinions, but  
only with such omissions as may be necessary or proper to protect

1 the confidence and privacy of the County officers and employees.

2 A Board on its own motion, may investigate any suspected or  
3 alleged violation of this ordinance. The Board shall investigate  
4 all written complaints with regard to violation of this ordinance.  
5 The Board may administer oath in connection with any matter under  
6 inquiry. Any witness in a proceeding before the Board of Ethics,  
7 shall have the right to be represented by counsel.

8 The Board shall render a written decision when it has concluded  
9 its investigation. Copies of the opinion may be delivered to the  
10 appropriate county officers or released to the public at the dis-  
11 cretion of the Board. A copy of the opinion shall be presented to  
12 the person or organization which was the subject of the investiga-  
13 tion. No opinion, after an investigation, may be issued unless the  
14 person complained against has had an opportunity to have a fair  
15 hearing. Any person being investigated may demand a public hearing.

16 INTRODUCED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1970.

17 PASSED by the Council at a regular meeting thereof on the  
18 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1970.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL

KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Bill Reams  
Chairman

24 ATTESTED:

25 Ralph O. Steyer  
26 Clerk of the Council  
27

28 APPROVED THIS 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF May, 1970.

30 ORDINANCE READINGS

31 1st 4-20-70  
32 2nd 5-11-70  
3rd 5-11-70  
Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature]  
King County Executive