

ORDINANCE NO. 1321

1 AN ORDINANCE establishing a Board of Ethics  
2 for King County; defining purpose; setting  
3 membership and terms of office; establishing  
4 authority; and repealing K.C.C. 3.04.060,  
5 Section 6, Ordinance No. 204, Ordinance No.  
6 444, and Ordinance No. 498.

7 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

8 SECTION 1. Section 6, Ordinance No. 204, Ordinance No.  
9 444, Ordinance No. 498, and K.C.C. 3.04.060 are hereby re-  
10 pealed.

11 SECTION 2. BOARD OF ETHICS - MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS. There  
12 is hereby created a Board of Ethics, composed of three members,  
13 one to be appointed by the County Executive, one to be  
14 appointed by the County Executive from a list of nominees  
15 submitted by the County Council, and the third, who shall be  
16 chairman, to be appointed by the County Executive from a list  
17 of nominees submitted by the other two members. All  
18 appointments are to be confirmed by the County Council. The  
19 terms of the Board members shall be three years. The first  
20 three members shall be appointed for one, two, and three year  
21 terms respectively. The chairman shall have a three year  
22 term; the other terms are to be determined by lot. A member  
23 of the Board of Ethics may be removed for just cause by a  
24 two-thirds vote of the County Council, after written charges  
25 have been served on the member and a public hearing has been  
26 held by the County Council. The Board shall be advisory and  
27 shall meet as frequently as it deems necessary. A majority  
28 of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

29 SECTION 3. PURPOSE. The purpose of the Board of Ethics  
30 shall be to insure the proper implementation of the Code of  
31 Ethics and to investigate and report on conflicts of in-  
32 terest.

33 SECTION 4. AUTHORITY. Whenever requested by a County  
officer or employee, or whenever it deems it in the public  
interest, the Board of Ethics shall render advisory opinions,

1 in writing, concerning questions of ethics, conflicts of  
2 interest, and the applicability of the Code of Ethics.

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

10 The Board shall render a written decision when it has  
11 concluded its investigation. Copies of the opinion shall be  
12 delivered to the County Executive and all members of the  
13 King County Council. Such opinion may also be released to  
14 the public at the discretion of the Board with such omissions  
15 as may be necessary to protect the confidence and privacy  
16 of County officers or employees. A written copy of the  
17 Board's opinion shall be delivered to the officer or employee  
18 requesting the opinion.

19 A copy of the opinion shall be presented to the person  
20 or organization which was the subject of the investigation.  
21 No opinion, after an investigation, may be issued unless  
22 the person complained against has had an opportunity to have  
23 a fair hearing. Any person being investigated may demand a  
24 public hearing.

25 SECTION 5. INCOME DISCLOSURE. The Board of Ethics  
26 shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations delineating  
27 personnel employed by the County, not included in the  
28 County Code of Ethics, who shall be required to complete and  
29 file statements of disclosure of income and investments.  
30 The statements of elected officials and candidates shall be  
31  
32  
33

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33

public record. All other statements shall not be made public without written approval of the Board of Ethics.

PASSED by the Council at a regular meeting thereof on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1972.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator-Clerk  
King County Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
King County Executive