

Agenda Summary Report (ASR)

Franklin County Board of Commissioners

DATE SUBMITTED: 08/12/2021	PREPARED BY: Office of Public Defense
Meeting Date Requested:	PRESENTED BY: Office of Public Defense
ITEM: (Select One) ☒ Consent Agenda ☐ Brought Before the Board Time needed:	
SUBJECT: Professional Services Contract with Shelley Ajax, for indigent representation in Franklin County Superior Court for Conflict and Overflow Case Appointments	
FISCAL IMPACT: None	
BACKGROUND: Currently, Shelley Ajax currently provides services for accepting appointments that our currently paneled attorneys cannot accept due to conflicts. Both parties are in agreement to renew said contract until December 31, 2024.	
RECOMMENDATION: Approve Professional Services Contract with Shelley Ajax	
COORDINATION: Larry Zeigler, Manage Whitney Conner, Admin Assistant	
ATTACHMENTS: (Documents you are submitting to the Board) ASR Resolution Professional Services Agreement	
HANDLING / ROUTING: (Once document is fully executed it will be imported into Document Manager. Please list <u>name(s)</u> of parties that will need a pdf) None	

I certify the above information is accurate and complete.

Whitney Conner, OPD Admin Assistant

FRANKLIN COUNTY RESOLUTION _____

*BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON*

**EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH
ATTORNEY SHELLEY AJAX TO REPRESENT INDIGENT PERSONS
FOR CONFLICT/OVERFLOW IN FRANKLIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT**

WHEREAS, Franklin County is obligated by law to provide indigent defense services in Franklin County Superior Court; and

WHEREAS, attorney Shelley Ajax has expressed interest in continuing to provide such services for Franklin County Superior Court; and

WHEREAS, Franklin County wishes to continue to contract with attorney Ajax, for a period from January 01, 2021 to December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Attorney Shelley Ajax, is qualified and interested in continuing to provide such representation and it appears appropriate to continue the professional services agreement to provide such representation; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the professional services agreement with Shelley Ajax, designated AJAX12312024FCSC, be executed as presented.

DATED this day of, 20

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Chair

Chair Pro Tem

Member

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE
LEGAL REPRESENTATION TO INDIGENT PERSONS
FOR CONFLICTS/OVERFLOW IN
FRANKLIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT**

CONTRACT SUMMARY			
Contract Type	FCSC – Conflict/Overflow		
Contract Number	AJAX12312024FCSC	Contract Holder	Shelley Ajax
WSBA #	36227	Effective Dates	01/01/2021-12/31/2024
Caseload Cap	40	Compensation	\$680.00 per case

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into by and between **Shelley Ajax**, attorney at law, Washington State Bar Association #31930 (“Attorney”), and **FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**, a state of Washington political subdivision (“County”), for and on behalf of the Franklin County Superior Court.

THIS AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO BASED UPON THE FOLLOWING FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES:

- A. The County has the legal responsibility to provide legal defense services to indigent persons charged with felony criminal offenses alleged to have been committed within the County’s jurisdictional boundaries.
- B. Attorney is engaged in the private practice of law, has direct experience in litigating cases involving persons charged with criminal offenses, and desires to contract with the County to provide legal services to indigent persons subject to criminal charges in Franklin County Superior Court.
- C. Public defense cases in Franklin County Superior Court are ordinarily assigned to one of three Contract public defenders whose primary contractual duties to Franklin County are the defense of cases in that court (“Defense Panel”) but from time to time it is necessary to appoint cases to attorneys who are not on the Defense Panel by reason of conflict of interest cases or when Defense Panel attorneys reach their contractual caseload maximum caps.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, the County and Attorney hereby agree as follows:

1. **AGREEMENT TERM.** This Agreement shall be deemed effective for all purposes as of **January 01, 2021**, and shall continue thereafter through and including **December 31, 2024**, unless earlier terminated pursuant to the applicable terms and provisions of this Agreement.

2. **ATTORNEY'S OFFICE LOCATION.**

a. Attorney presently and regularly maintains (or has access to) an office adequate and appropriate for the practice of law at **5861 W. Clearwater Ave, Kennewick, WA 99336**; Attorney's current local office telephone and fax numbers are **(509) 783-3330 and (509) 783-3334**, respectively; and Attorney's current office/work e-mail address is **shelley@ajaxlawfirm.com** .

b. Throughout the entire term of this Agreement, Attorney shall continue to maintain (or have access to) such office, such telephone and fax numbers, and such e-mail address; provided that, however, Attorney may relocate Attorney's office to another location within the greater Tri-Cities, Washington, and/or Attorney may change Attorney's telephone/fax number to another greater Tri-Cities local telephone/fax number, and/or Attorney may change Attorney's e-mail address, provided that Attorney must provide immediate written notice of such change(s) to the Franklin County PDM or designee ("PDM").

c. Regardless of the location or manner in which Attorney decides to maintain an office, throughout the entire term of this Agreement the office facility must comply with any and all applicable public defense standards adopted by the Washington Supreme Court.

3. **ATTORNEY'S QUALIFICATIONS.** Attorney acknowledges and agrees that the County has an obligation to provide competent and effective legal counsel to indigent persons subject to proceedings in Franklin County Superior Court. Attorney shall perform all services hereunder in strict accordance with the usual skills and professional ethical standards exercised by attorneys engaged in the defense of persons accused of crimes in the state of Washington and generally exercised by members of the Washington State Bar Association ("WSBA"). Without limitation in that regard, Attorney acknowledges and agrees that Attorney has a fundamental duty and responsibility to effectively promote and protect the best interests and rights of all persons whom Attorney is appointed to represent under this Agreement.

a. As of the date of this Agreement, Attorney represents and warrants that Attorney is unconditionally licensed to practice law within the state of Washington; has had at least one (1) year of direct trial experience in criminal defense or criminal prosecution matters; meets the minimum standards for Superior Court Superior public defense (for Class B and Class C felonies) as adopted by the Washington State Supreme Court; has not been a party to a previous personal services agreement with any governmental entity or any other entity for the provision of public indigent defense services that was terminated due to Attorney's breach or other contractual non-compliance; has not been previously employed by any governmental entity or any other entity to provide indigent defense services and had such employment terminated due to any reason relating to Attorney's job performance; has not been censured, admonished, or otherwise formally disciplined for past conduct or behavior that would negatively reflect on Attorney's duty and ability to effectively and competently render legal services hereunder; has not been suspended or disbarred from the practice of law in any state or other jurisdiction at any time in the past; and does not have any bar association complaints filed and pending against him/her.

(i) This Agreement may be subject to review and potential termination pursuant to paragraph 19 below in the event that Attorney's license to practice law in Washington is revoked or otherwise limited or restricted; in the event that a court of competent jurisdiction formally determines and expressly finds that Attorney has rendered ineffective assistance of counsel to any person; in the event that Attorney is censured, admonished, or otherwise formally disciplined for conduct or behavior that negatively reflects on Attorney's duty and ability to effectively and competently render legal services

hereunder; or in the event that Attorney is suspended or disbarred from the practice of law in any other state or jurisdiction.

(ii) Attorney shall notify the County within five (5) business days if any event specified in paragraph 3.a.(i) occurs or if any bar association complaint is filed against Attorney. Failure to do so shall constitute a substantial and incurable breach of this Agreement and shall subject this Agreement, at the election of the County, to immediate termination.

(iii) Attorney acknowledges and agrees that the County may conduct criminal history background check(s) on Attorney including any such recurring check as the County may deem appropriate, in its sole discretion, even at times after execution of this Agreement. Attorney acknowledges and agrees that this Agreement shall be deemed immediately and automatically terminated upon the County receiving a non-complying or otherwise unsatisfactory criminal history background check report.

(iv) Attorney represents, warrants, and certifies that Attorney has read and fully understands the requirements of RCW 13.40.570 (sexual misconduct by state employees, contractors) and all sex offense crimes included in RCW Chapter 9A.44. Attorney shall comply with any and all applicable legal and/or administrative requirements relating to the documentation/reporting of sexual misconduct.

(v) Upon Attorney pleading guilty or being convicted of any the following-described offenses, Attorney shall notify the PDM of such plea/conviction within (7) calendar days thereafter, and Attorney's failure to timely report within such timeframe shall constitute a substantial and incurable breach of this Agreement and result in the immediate and automatic termination of this Agreement. Even if the County is timely notified by Attorney, the County may elect at their sole discretion, to terminate this Agreement and, if they elect to do so, may do so with ten (10) days written notice to Attorney:

- (a) Any felony offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 and RCW 9A.144.130 or misdemeanor sex offense under the laws of the State of Washington, any other state, or federal law;
- (b) Any crime specified in RCW Chapter 9A.44 when the victim was a juvenile in the custody of, or under the jurisdiction of, the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, Washington Department of Social and Health Services;
- (c) Any violent offense as defined in RCW 0.04A.030 or its equivalent in any other state or federal statute; and/or
- (d) Any crime of dishonesty or deception.

b. During each calendar year of the term of this Agreement, Attorney shall obtain at least seven (7) hours of WSBA-qualified Continuing Legal Education ("CLE") credits in courses directly relating to Attorney's public defense practice under this Agreement. Attorney shall provide the PDM with written proof and confirmation that such CLE credits have been obtained no later than by December 31st of each calendar year. Additionally, during each calendar year during the term of this Agreement, in addition to participating in any specialized training-related activity

specified in RCW 10.101.060(1)(a)(iii) or otherwise specifically required by other applicable law or court rule, Attorney shall attend at least one (1) public defense services-related training seminar sponsored and/or approved by the Washington Office of Public Defense ("OPD"), and any CLE credit earned by Attorney by attending such training seminar(s) may be applied towards the above-mentioned minimum seven (7) hours. The County may provide Attorney's name and address to the OPD for purposes of the OPD notifying Attorney of any such upcoming training seminars. Attorney shall provide the PDM with written proof and confirmation that such required training seminar has been attended by Attorney no later than by December 31st of each calendar year.

c. Attorney represents and warrants that, throughout the entire term of this Agreement, Attorney's private law practice caseload; Attorney's schedule; and Attorney's office resources, equipment, and support staff will allow Attorney to competently undertake and effectively perform all services required under this Agreement. Attorney represents and warrants that Attorney's private law practice and schedule will not interfere with Attorney's ability to timely and effectively perform such services including, without limitation, Attorney's ability to prepare for and attend regularly scheduled trials and dockets or Attorney's ability to schedule and conduct face-to-face meetings with the persons Attorney is appointed to represent under this Agreement for purposes of discussing, preparing, and pursuing the most viable defense(s) and/or resolution available and keeping such persons reasonably apprised as to the status of their case.

d. Pursuant to RCW 10.101.050, no later than 15 calendar days after the end of each calendar year during the term of this Agreement, Attorney shall provide the PDM with a written report showing the total number and specific types of private practice cases (which for purposes of this Agreement shall include pro bono cases, retained-fee cases, and any cases handled by Attorney under any other professional/personal services agreement) in which Attorney provided legal services during the preceding year and the total number and specific types of appointed cases under this Agreement in which Attorney provided legal services during the preceding year. Additionally, in the event that the public defense attorney caseload activity reporting requirements under RCW 10.101.050 are later amended/modified, Attorney shall correspondingly comply with any such amended/modified reporting requirements without added compensation upon written notice from the County to do so.

e. Attorney recognizes and acknowledges that Attorney is required by Washington Supreme Court Order to meet certain Supreme Court-adopted Standards for Indigent Defense ("Defense Standards") to provide quality representation to indigent persons, and to periodically file certain certifications attesting to Attorney's compliance with such Defense Standards. Attorney understands and acknowledges that Attorney's compliance with such Defense Standards and periodic certification filing requirements is a direct professional and ethical obligation between Attorney and any Court in which Attorney appears while performing services under this Agreement. Attorney further acknowledges and understands that, though Attorney's compliance with such Defense Standards and such periodic certification filing requirements is not an express term of this Agreement and therefore not subject to the County's monitoring or control, Attorney's noncompliance with such Defense Standards and/or such filing requirements would directly impair Attorney's ability to perform and fulfill Attorney's basic obligations under this Agreement. Accordingly, if the County is notified by any Court in which Attorney appears to perform services under this Agreement that Attorney has failed to comply with such Defense Standards or such periodic certification filing requirements, Attorney shall then be considered to be in substantive breach of this Agreement and this Agreement shall then become subject to potential termination under the provisions of paragraph 19.b. below.

f. Attorney understands and acknowledges that Attorney is solely and personally responsible to obtain and maintain all necessary state and local government business licenses and/or other approvals necessary to operate Attorney's private legal services business.

4. **OTHER INDIGENT DEFENSE ATTORNEYS.** In addition to entering into this Agreement with Attorney, the County has entered into, or contemplates entering into, separate and independent professional services agreements with other licensed attorneys to primarily provide criminal defense services to indigent persons accused of felony crimes in Franklin County Superior Court. Attorney agrees to fully cooperate and coordinate with such other independent contractor attorneys, the PDM, and any attorneys hired and employed by the County ("Public Defenders") to provide criminal defense services to persons accused of crimes in Franklin County Superior Court, to establish a process to effectuate the efficient and equitable distribution of case appointments between Attorney, said other independent contractor attorneys, and said Public Defenders (collectively the "Franklin County Superior Court Criminal Defense Panel"). The PDM shall have the inherent discretion and authority to monitor and control (and reasonably modify/change) such process.

5. **CASE APPOINTMENTS.** During the term of this Agreement, Attorney agrees to and shall accept appointments to represent indigent person (regardless of their race, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, handicap/disability, personal background, creed, or political or religious affiliation) on any matter in Franklin County Superior Court in which publicly provided counsel is furnished or required by law. More specifically, Attorney shall accept court appointments to indigent persons on any of the following types of matters:

- Any criminal matter filed or otherwise pending under the applicable Washington criminal statutes and/or under any other applicable Washington law in Franklin County Superior Court.
- Any post-disposition probation violation, revocation, modification, and/or contempt-of-court proceeding relating to any underlying criminal case.
- Any diversion referral consultation and/or diversion revocation proceeding.
- Any material witness or truancy matter (limited to those truancy matters scheduled on first-appearance dockets).
- Any misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor filed directly in Franklin County Superior Court, whether as a part of another separate case or filed independently.
- Any material witness matter relating to a felony case or matter filed in Franklin County Superior Court.
- Any case or matter returned to Franklin County Superior Court from any higher court.
- Any other type of Franklin County Superior Court case or matter (regardless whether criminal-based or civil-based) in which another Franklin County Superior Court Criminal Defense Panel member and/or any other attorney who is under a professional services agreement to provide legal representation in Franklin County Superior Court (e.g., Superior court civil defense panel attorney) is unable to handle due to a conflict of interest.

- Any case or matter for which post-conviction representation is mandated by law including, but not limited to, sentence reviews and requests for furloughs.

6. **CONTINUED REPRESENTATION.** Attorney has a duty to timely and fully complete all cases appointed to Attorney under this Agreement. "Timely and fully complete" means, for each case, continuing to represent the defendant up to and including the time of final disposition of their case whether by way of adjudication, dismissal of all charges, or a change of plea and entering of a disposition. Provided, however, that if a case, is re-tried for any reason, Attorney shall only be entitled to the trial per diem, if applicable, for the re-trial, and not for any additional case credit. Provided further, however, if restitution is not agreed upon at time of dispositions and a separate restitution hearing is necessary, then Attorney shall represent the defendant at such restitution hearing in order to have "timely and fully completed" the case. In cases where a defendant is placed on a deferred prosecution or stipulated order of continuance program, then Attorney shall be responsible for providing legal representation to such a defendant in the event the defendant is accused of a violation of the terms of such a program and is ordered to show cause why their participation in such a program should not be terminated. The determination of case credit entitlement at such subsequent representation shall be governed by the provisions of Article 8 below.

Attorney's responsibility to provide continuing legal representation to clients upon expiration or termination of this Agreement shall be determined as follows: In the event of termination of this Agreement at the election of either party by providing ninety (90) days' notice of desire to do so as provided by paragraph 19.c below, Attorney shall provide the PDM with accurate documentation identifying Attorney's then-existing Superior Court caseload which shall include for each identified case the case title and cause number, the case type, the case status, and the next court appearance date ("Caseload Information"). Attorney shall provide the Caseload Information to the PDM with Attorney providing his/her notice of termination to the County (or, if the County provides the notice of termination to Attorney, within five (5) business days of Attorney receiving such notice) and Attorney shall again provide the PDM with updated Caseload Information sixty (60) days prior to the effective date of Agreement termination and again at thirty (30) days prior to said termination date. Attorney shall then be responsible for providing continued legal representation to clients in any and all such identified cases that remain unresolved as of the effective date of Agreement termination, except for the following matters in which Attorney's continuing representation of the client shall be limited to sixty (60) days following the termination date:

- (i) Any civil-based matter,
- (ii) Any deferred disposition matter,
- (iii) Any matter involving an indigent person terminated from Drug Court,
- (iv) Any matter involving an indigent person whom a warrant has been issued,
- (v) Special Sex Offender Disposition Alternative Revocation hearings,
- (vi) Chemical Dependency Disposition Alternative Revocation Hearings, and/or
- (vii) Any case where personal service is not affected within thirty (30) days of the date of the notice of termination.

7. **NUMBER OF APPOINTMENTS.** During each calendar year of the term of this Agreement, Attorney agrees to and shall accept appointments hereunder to represent indigent persons in

the Franklin County Superior Court up to a maximum of **40 case equivalents per calendar year** (proratable for any partial calendar year).

8. **CASE EQUIVALENTS.**

a. For the sole and exclusive purpose of calculating Attorney's above-referenced "case equivalents" under this Agreement, the following provisions of this paragraph 8 shall apply, but such provisions are not intended to constitute, and do not constitute, any type of "weighting system" adopted by the County for purposes of Attorney's above-referenced certifications of compliance with the Defense Standards adopted by the Washington State Supreme Court, and such provisions shall not be used or relied upon by Attorney in any way for such reasons or similar purposes.

- B and Class C felony appointments, shall be counted as one (1) case equivalent. A felony appointments shall be counted as two (2) case equivalents.
- A misdemeanor appointment shall be counted as on-half (1/2) of a case equivalent.
- An appointment to a dependency case shall count as five (5) case equivalents per year.
- An appointment on a mental or alcohol commitment shall count as one-third (1/3) of a case equivalent.
- An appointment on a declination hearing shall count as one (1) case equivalent (in addition to the applicable case equivalent for the underlying offense if the case is disposed of in Superior Court, i.e., jurisdiction retained by Superior Court).
- An appointment to a termination case shall count as five (5) case equivalents per year.
- Assignment to miscellaneous rotating "attorney of the week" matters including, without limitation, contempts, probation violations, diversion counsels, material witness matters, and trancies, shall count as one-third (1/3) of a case equivalent per matter.
- If Attorney is appointed to a case and withdraws prior to the omnibus hearing for any reason, including the substitution of retained counsel or a conflict of interest, that appointment shall not count as any case equivalent; provided that the PDM shall retain discretion to award a case equivalent value (or fractional portion thereof) if deemed appropriate.
- Case equivalent value assigned is based on cases, not charges, and is determined by the classification of the most serious offense charged.
- An appointment on a Drug Court case shall not count as any case equivalent.

b. An appointment to any matter in which Attorney was previously appointed shall not be further counted as any type of case equivalent if such matter was not fully concluded and subsequently arises again before the Franklin County Superior Court and Attorney continues representing the same person in such matter (e.g., if Attorney was appointed to represent a person on a criminal charge who fails to appear for trial, Attorney's continued representation of such person following his later arrest shall be deemed as being a prior and ongoing representation and shall not count as any type of further or additional case equivalent). Provided that, if Attorney was appointed to represent a person who is duly tried, convicted, and sentenced, Attorney's subsequent representation of such person during subsequent proceedings for alleged violations of sentence conditions shall be deemed as being an independent and unrelated matter.

c. Except as may be otherwise specifically and expressly provided in this Agreement, an appointment to any matter involving multiple charges arising out of a single incident or series of substantially related incidents shall be considered as being one (1) case equivalent. Similarly, except as may be otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, an appointment to any matter involving multiple charges brought/filed under a single cause number and/or which are properly joined for purposes of trial shall be considered as being one (1) case equivalent.

d. Throughout the term of this Agreement, the Legal Process Unit shall keep and maintain records consistent with the provisions of this Agreement in a format adequate to accurately track and monitor the number of Attorney's appointments and total case equivalents hereunder. The Legal Process Unit shall provide copies of such records to the PDM, and Attorney on a monthly basis. Attorney shall have the burden of proof in the event that Attorney disagrees with any such records, and Attorney must notify the Legal Process Unit Supervisor in writing within ten (10) business days of records receipt if Attorney disagrees with, and desires to dispute, any such records, otherwise such records shall be conclusively presumed and relied upon as being fully accurate.

9. **CLIENT ELIGIBILITY.** The Franklin County Superior Court (or its designee), consistent with applicable laws, rules and standards, shall determine the eligibility of any particular person for representation by Attorney under this Agreement. Attorney is under no obligation to determine a person's eligibility or continuing eligibility to receive publicly provided representation. However, if Attorney is appointed to represent a person and subsequently discovers that such person may not be eligible to receive publicly-provided representation under applicable laws, rules and standards, Attorney, if able to do so within the bounds of applicable ethical rules and professional standards, shall promptly notify the Franklin County Superior Court of such possibility for purposes of the Court (or its designee) taking action at its discretion to re-determine whether such person is/remains eligible to receive publicly-provided representation. If the Franklin County Superior Court (or its designee) then determines that such person is not eligible for publicly-provided representation, the appointment of Attorney to represent such person shall be rescinded and such person shall be required to retain his/her own legal counsel. Attorney shall not thereafter represent such person in such matter on a retained-fee basis unless such person applies for and receives the Franklin County Superior Court's permission allowing such representation. Nothing contained herein shall prevent Attorney from representing a person on a retained-fee basis in an action in which Attorney has not been appointed by the Franklin County Superior Court to represent such person, or from representing a person on a retained-fee basis whom Attorney has been appointed by the Franklin County Superior Court to represent provided that the matter(s) involving the retained representation are wholly independent and unrelated to the matter for which Attorney was appointed.

10. **CONFLICTS.** Notwithstanding any other terms or provisions contained in this Agreement to the contrary, Attorney shall not be required to accept, and Attorney shall decline to accept,

an appointment under this Agreement if the particular appointment would create a true and bona fide conflict of interest for Attorney or would otherwise cause or constitute an actual violation of any generally recognized ethical or professional standards common and applicable to attorneys in the state of Washington. Furthermore, in the event a true and bona fide conflict of interest arises subsequent to Attorney receiving an appointment under this Agreement (or in the event Attorney's continued involvement in a pending case would cause or constitute an actual violation of any such ethical or professional standards), Attorney shall immediately make the Franklin County Superior Court aware of such development for purposes of the Court taking action to appoint another attorney to assume and undertake legal representation in such case.

11. **SCOPE OF REPRESENTATION; FILE RETENTION.** Attorney agrees to and shall represent all persons whom Attorney is appointed to represent hereunder with the same skill and commitment as Attorney exercises and expends when representing persons on a private and/or retained-fee basis. Without limitation in that regard, such representation should include the investigation of the underlying facts, the research of all relevant law, interviewing of potential witnesses, retention and use of investigators and/or experts when warranted and necessary, appropriate communication with the client, review of potential plea alternatives, review of potential collateral consequences associated with a plea/adjudication (e.g., potential immigration or civil commitment consequences), and the preparation for and appearance on behalf of the client in all stages of Superior Court proceedings including, without limitation, arraignments, pre-trial hearings, motions, trials, disposition proceedings, contempt proceedings, appeals (limited to the preparation and filing of any and all pleadings necessary and appropriate to perfect any appeal or statutory writ to a higher court, including the appointment of publicly-provided counsel, if and when applicable), and post-adjudication reviews.

a. Without limiting Attorney's obligation to initially meet with a client to discuss his/her case as soon as reasonably possible following Attorney's appointment to the case, when Attorney is appointed to an "in custody" case (i.e., a case in which the person is confined/incarcerated), Attorney shall use best efforts to meet face-to-face with such person within three (3) business days of Attorney receiving the appointment (unless the circumstances of a particular case reasonably require that Attorney make earlier initial contact with the person), or otherwise as soon thereafter as is reasonably possible.

b. Additionally, throughout Attorney's representation of any person under this Agreement, Attorney shall maintain reasonably appropriate contact/communications with the person so as to keep him/her fully apprised as to the status of his/her case (with the specific manner and frequency of such contact/communications left entirely to Attorney's professional judgment); and Attorney should use best efforts to apprise the person of any new development in his/her case within three (3) business days of Attorney learning of such development (unless the circumstances of a particular case reasonably require that Attorney make earlier contact with the person), or otherwise as soon thereafter as is reasonably possible. Without limiting any of the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, with regard to any court hearing involving a represented person, Attorney should contact such person (preferably in person or at least via telephone) to discuss his/her case and the purpose of the hearing no later than one (1) business day prior to the hearing date.

c. Attorney shall compile and maintain appropriate case records for each person whom Attorney is appointed to represent hereunder. Attorney shall retain such case records in their entirety (or a complete and legible copy thereof) for a period of no less than seven (7) years from the date on which the case or matter is fully and finally concluded or for any other time period specified under applicable court rule or statute, whichever date/event occurs last.

12. **MONTHLY COMPENSATION.**

a. As compensation for Attorney's performance and rendering of independent professional legal services under the Agreement, the County shall pay Attorney, as professional service attorney fees and not as employment salary/wages, the sum of **\$680.00 per case equivalent.**

b. In addition to receiving the above-stated compensation under paragraph 12.a., Attorney shall receive \$400.00 for each full day of trial and \$200.00 for each partial day of trial, not to include pre-trial motions or time waiting for disposition. A full day of trial is defined as actual trial proceedings going beyond 2 p.m. each day. "Trial" for purposes of this paragraph 12.b. only, shall be defined as actual proceedings related to a jury or bench trial in court, and on the record, including jury selection, all portions of the trial, and any special set sentencing proceeding. Trial shall not include any time awaiting a jury decision (even if Attorney is required to remain in or close by the courthouse) and also shall not include any time conferring with the Judge or any other person off the record. In any case where Attorney has actually expended time or resources preparing for trial and, because of either a motion to dismiss by the prosecutor or the extension of a more favorable offer by the prosecution communicated on the day of trial, the need for trial is permanently eliminated, then Attorney shall nonetheless be entitled to a trial per diem in the amount of \$400.00 if the matter was scheduled for a jury trial or \$200.00 if the matter was scheduled for a bench trial. Attorney may seek compensation for trial per diem by submitting a claim for compensation utilizing the procedure set forth in paragraph 12.d. below. Any claims for trial per diem for matters where the trial was canceled permanently due to a better plea offer or motion to dismiss by the prosecutor on the day of trial shall include a statement that the Attorney did actually expend time or resources preparing for the trial and that the better plea offer or motion to dismiss was not fully anticipated at a time prior to the day of trial.

c. Attorney acknowledges and agrees that the above-stated compensation to Attorney under paragraphs 12.1 and 12.b. shall constitute Attorney's full and exclusive compensation hereunder for all cases handled by Attorney under this Agreement.

d. As a precondition to Attorney receiving payment of the compensation specified under paragraphs 12.1. and/or 12.b above, Attorney must submit a claim for compensation to the PDM that includes the necessary information specified in said paragraphs (exercising appropriate discretion to protect client confidentiality given that such claims are matters of public record unless sealed by the court at Attorney's request). Attorney's administrative time expended to prepare, submit, and process claims for compensation shall not be billable to the County. All claims for compensation shall be subject to the PDM's review and final approval for payment. Attorney shall submit claims for compensation to the PDM within sixty (60) days of Attorney becoming entitled to receive such compensation, and the County shall have the right to deny payment of any claim for compensation that is not timely submitted within said requisite sixty (60) day period.

e. If any submitted claim for compensation is disapproved by the PDM in whole or in part for any reason(s), the PDM shall promptly provide Attorney with written notice of such disapproval that specifically identifies and describes the reason(s) for disapproval ("Dispute Notice"). Upon Attorney's receipt of a Dispute Notice, Attorney must notify the PDM in writing within ten (10) business days thereafter if Attorney disputes, and desires to have the PDM reconsider, the Dispute Notice, and Attorney must include with that notice to the PDM any information and/or documentation that Attorney wants the PDM to review and consider as part of that reconsideration process (including, without limitation, full copies of any documents from the official court file relating to the particular case(s) addressed by the Dispute Notice, which court-

filled documents the parties' hereby agree shall be conclusively presumed as being complete and accurate for purposes of addressing and resolving any contested Dispute Notice). If Attorney fails to duly respond to a Dispute Notice within said ten (10) day period, the contents of the Dispute Notice shall then become conclusively binding on Attorney and shall be used by the County to calculate and make any compensation payment to Attorney arising from the disapproved claim for compensation. If Attorney duly responds to a Dispute Notice within said ten (10) day period, and if the result of the above-referenced reconsideration process does not fully resolve the disputed issue(s) arising from the Dispute Notice, the parties may then proceed to address and resolve the disputed issue(s) pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 31 below.

f. Attorney shall notify the PDM about any case appointment for which Attorney has already been compensated but for which Attorney has lost eligibility for full case equivalent credit by virtue of a substitution of counsel or withdrawal by Attorney for any other reason before the omnibus hearing as provided in paragraph 8.(x) above. Attorney shall provide such notice within thirty (30) days of such event (i.e., the substitution of counsel or withdrawal by Attorney resulting in lost eligibility for full case equivalent credit) and, if Attorney believes partial/fractional case equivalent credit is warranted under the provision of above paragraph 8.(x), Attorney shall include with such notice a written claim for partial/fractional case equivalent credit to be potentially used and applied for purposes of reversing the previously-awarded full case equivalent credit and correspondingly reducing the compensation previously paid to Attorney based thereon. If Attorney fails to notify the PDM as required in the paragraph 12.f. within said thirty (30) day period, Attorney shall forfeit any eligibility for partial/fractional credit and shall receive not credit for the particular case appointment even if Attorney performed services for which partial/fractional case equivalent credit may have otherwise been awarded under paragraph 8.(x).

g. The County shall have the right at any time (even after compensation has been paid to Attorney) to audit records pertaining to Attorney's case appointments under this Agreement, and if such audit determines that Attorney has lost eligibility to receive a full case equivalent credit for a particular case appointment by virtue of a substitution of counsel or withdrawal by Attorney for any other reason, the County shall then be entitled to immediately setoff and deduct any compensation amount(s) previously paid to Attorney for such case appointment, but for which Attorney is no longer eligible to receive, from any compensation amounts then due or thereafter becoming due to Attorney hereunder. Attorney's potential eligibility to receive partial credit for such cases shall be determined pursuant to above paragraphs 8.(x) and 12.f.

13. **HOMICIDE/PERSISTENT CASE COMPENSATION.** Homicide cases are appointed to the Superior Court Criminal Defense Panel members on a rotational basis. Attorney shall receive additional compensation for appointments to homicide cases in any degree at the rate of **\$65.00** per hour up to a maximum aggregate amount of \$10,000.00 per case (or such greater maximum aggregated amount as may be specifically approved and ordered by the court in a particular case as being reasonable and necessary due to its extraordinary facts, nature, and complexity).

a. Payment of any such additional compensation is based on time expended on the case by Attorney only. Time expended by other persons (including, without limitation, Attorney's support staff, laws partners, or associate attorneys) on such cases at Attorney's request or direction shall be part of Attorney's office overhead and shall not be billable to the County.

b. As a precondition to Attorney being paid the above-mentioned additional compensation for a homicide case, Attorney shall be required to submit a vendor warrant payment voucher to the PDM that descriptively sets forth and details the total number of hours (documented

and stated in one-tenth (1/10th) hour intervals) expended by Attorney on such case and that further describes and details the particular actions taken by Attorney on such case that correspond to such expended and billed hours (exercising appropriate discretion to protect client confidentiality given that such vouchers are matters of public record unless sealed by the court at Attorney's request). Attorney's administrative time expended to prepare, submit, and process vouchers shall not be billable to the County. All payment vouchers and requests for additional compensation under this paragraph shall be subject to the court's review and final approval for payment. Attorney shall submit such payment vouchers within sixty (60) days of the date on which Attorney expended time for which additional compensation is sought under this paragraph, and the Counties shall have the right to deny payment of any voucher that is not timely submitted within said requisite sixty (60) day period.

14. **COSTS AND EXPENSES.**

a. Attorney acknowledges and agrees that Attorney shall not be entitled to claim or receive any reimbursement/payment from the County for any law practice-related overhead costs or expenses incurred by Attorney during the course of rendering legal services under this Agreement (including, without limitation, costs and expenses associated with Attorney's office, office staff, office equipment/facilities, and/or other office or law practice-related resources).

b. The County recognizes, however, that in certain circumstances the need may arise for Attorney to incur certain types of expenses directly related to an indigent person's case such as private investigator fees, psychological or psychiatric evaluations, interpreter fees, scientific test fees, expert witness fees, and costs of out-of-area travel, meals and lodging.

(i) Attorney shall be entitled to receive reimbursement for the actual cost of such out-of-pocket expenditures or may arrange with the PDM for the service provider (e.g., private investigator, psychologist/psychiatrist, interpreter, testing lab, or expert witness) to be compensated directly by the County provided that, however, Attorney shall not incur any such expense (and shall not direct a service provider to incur any expenses), nor shall Attorney be entitled to be reimbursed or the service provider compensated for any such expense, unless such expense has been pre-approved by the PDM in writing pursuant to pre-approval process established by the PDM and promulgated by written policy. Such pre-authorization will state and provide a specific dollar amount for the requested and authorized expenditure; provided that, in the event it is not reasonably possible to state and provide a specific dollar amount for a particular requested expenditure, such pre-authorization may nevertheless provide authorization for the expenditure but shall establish and set forth a maximum dollar expenditure amount. In regard to any reimbursement to Attorney for any PDM-approved expenditures and costs pertaining to case-related travel, meals, and lodging, any reimbursement to Attorney for such expenditures and costs shall not exceed the locally adjusted amounts that are established and published by the Federal General Services Administration.

(ii) In addition to any other prerequisites imposed by court rules, procedures, or standards, as a precondition to Attorney being eligible to be reimbursed or a service provider being eligible to be compensated for an expenditure under paragraph 14.b., either Attorney or the service provider shall be required to submit a claim for reimbursement/compensation to the PDM that identifies the specific expenditure(s) for which reimbursement is sought (exercising appropriate discretion to protect client confidentiality given that such claims are matters of public record unless sealed by the

court at Attorney's request) and that has attached thereto a copy of the PDM's pre-authorization that specifically pre-approved and authorized such expenditure(s) (unless sealed by the court at Attorney's request) together with attached copies of all written payment receipts relating to such incurred expenditure(s) (unless sealed by the court at Attorney's request). Attorney's administrative time expended to prepare, submit, and process claims shall not be billable to the County. All payment vouchers and claims for reimbursement/compensation under this paragraph shall be subject to the PDM's review and final approval for payment. Attorney shall submit claims for reimbursement to the PDM within sixty (60) days of Attorney incurring the expense(s) for which reimbursement is sought, and the County shall have the right to deny payment of any claim that is not timely submitted within said requisite sixty (60) day period.

15. **ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE.** Attorney may from time-to-time be appointed to handle certain Class-A felony matters hereunder in Superior Court that may require an extraordinarily excessive amount of Attorney's time and/or responsibility. If Attorney is appointed to handle such a matter, Attorney may request Superior Court appoint one of the other Superior Court Criminal Defense Panel attorneys to assist Attorney in such matter, with the other attorney (unless prevented by a conflict of interest) being appointed to assist Attorney in the same manner as any other appointment. The parties intend that the provisions of this paragraph may be pursued and utilized only under extraordinary and exceptional circumstances when the appointment of another attorney is actually necessary to prevent Attorney from performing an inordinately greater amount of work or accepting an inordinately greater amount of responsibility than the other members of the Superior Court Criminal Defense Panel. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, however, if the Court determines in any particular matter within the scope of this paragraph that the appointment of another attorney to assist Attorney requires the appointment of a non-panel member attorney because of the nature and complexity of the particular matter, the County recognizes that the Court would have the ultimate and inherent discretion and power to do so.

16. **INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS.** Attorney agrees to and shall fully indemnify and hold fully harmless the County and its elected/appointed representatives, officers, employees, and agents from and for any and all losses, damages, costs, charges, claims, demands, suits, or actions of whatsoever nature directly or indirectly arising out of or by reason of Attorney's (or any person, employee, agent, contractor, or entity acting for or on behalf of Attorney or at Attorney's request or direction) acts, defaults, errors and/or omissions of whatsoever nature in the performance of legal services to any person under this Agreement. In the event any suit or any other type of legal proceeding is brought against the County or any of its elected/appointed representatives, officers, employees or agents at any time on account of or by reason of any such acts, defaults, errors and/or omissions, Attorney hereby covenants and agrees to assume the defense thereof (through counsel acceptable to the County) and to defend the same at Attorney's sole cost and expense and to pay any and all costs, charges, attorneys' fees, and other expenses as well as any and all judgments or awards that may be incurred by or entered against the County or any of its elected/appointed representatives, officers, employees or agents in such suits or other legal proceedings; provided that, however, the County shall, at all times, retain the full and exclusive right to control the terms and conditions of any type of settlement or other resolution of any such suit or legal proceeding. Without limiting the intended broad scope and application of the indemnification and hold harmless provisions of this paragraph, for purposes of this paragraph, Attorney waives, with respect to the County only, any immunity that would otherwise be available to Attorney under the Industrial Insurance Act provisions of Title 51 RCW or any other similar workers/employee disability or benefit law. The indemnification and hold harmless provisions of this paragraph shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

17. **INSURANCE.**

a. Attorney shall obtain and maintain, at Attorney's sole cost and expense, a policy of professional liability insurance in an amount of not less than \$1,000,000.00 per claim nor less than \$1,000,000.00 in the aggregate during the policy term and with a maximum deductible of not more than \$10,000.00.

(i) Said policy shall include coverage as an additional insured for any other person(s) or attorney(s) acting for or on behalf of Attorney in the performance of this Agreement; shall provide professional liability insurance coverage for any acts, errors and/or omissions by Attorney (and/or such additional insureds) during the course of performing legal services under this Agreement; shall require that the insurance company provide the County with no less than thirty (30) days prior written notice in the event the policy is cancelled or materially altered; shall comply with all applicable state of Washington insurance requirements; and shall be issued by an insurance company rated A- or better by A.M. Best authorized to conduct business and issue insurance in the state of Washington.

(ii) Attorney shall continuously maintain the professional liability insurance coverage required by this paragraph 17.a. throughout the entire term of this Agreement, throughout any other longer time period during which Attorney is obligated to continue performing services and duties hereunder, and for a period of no less than thirty-six (36) consecutive months after Attorney has fully completed all services and duties required hereunder.

b. Attorney shall also obtain and maintain, at Attorney's sole cost and expense, a policy of Commercial General Liability insurance (including Endorsement Form CG2011 or direct equivalent insurance industry additional insured endorsement form and including Contractual Liability coverage) in the amount of not less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence nor less than \$2,000,000.00 in the aggregate during the policy term. Additionally, if Attorney is an employer, Attorney shall obtain and maintain, at Attorney's sole cost and expense, a policy of Statutory Workers Compensation and Employers Liability/Stop Gap insurance in the amount of not less than \$1,000,000.00.

(i) The policy of Commercial General Liability insurance shall be written on an occurrence basis; shall name the County, the Franklin County Superior Court, and their elected/appointed representatives, officers, employees and agents as additional insureds; shall be primary coverage for both defense and indemnity and non-contributory with any insurance coverage maintained by the County; and shall provide for waiver of subrogation rights as to the County.

(ii) The insurance policies required by this paragraph 17.b shall require that the insurance company provide the County with no less than thirty (30) days prior written notice in the event the policy is cancelled or materially altered; shall comply with all applicable state of Washington insurance requirements; and shall be issued by an insurance company rated A- or better by A.M. Best authorized to conduct business and issue insurance in the state of Washington.

(iii) Attorney shall continuously maintain the insurance coverage required by this paragraph 17.b. throughout the entire term of this Agreement and throughout any other longer time period during which Attorney is obligated to continue performing services and duties hereunder.

c. Contemporaneously with Attorney's execution of this Agreement, Attorney shall provide the County with copies or certificates of the insurance policies and coverage (including any endorsements) required under this paragraph 17, and Attorney shall annually provide the County with the same type of documented proof and confirmation that such insurance policies and coverage continue to exist no later than thirty (30) days after the policies' annual renewal date(s).

18. **COMPLAINTS; PERFORMANCE MONITORING.** In the event that the PDM (or another employee/representative of the Franklin County Office of Public Defense), or the Court receives an oral/written communication from a person represented by Attorney under this Agreement that in substance asserts an unresolved complaint about the legal services rendered to such person by Attorney and is not readily subject to resolution simply by facilitating communication between Attorney and client, a written, dated, and signed statement shall be obtained from the complainant describing and detailing the relevant facts and circumstances underlying and alleged in the complaint, copies of which shall be provided to the PDM.

a. Upon receiving such complaint, the PDM, without limitation to any other action the County may deem necessary/appropriate to pursue under this Agreement, shall promptly forward a copy of the complaint to Attorney and request Attorney's written, dated, and signed response thereto (which Attorney shall prepare and provide to the PDM within five (5) business days). The PDM shall then review the complaint and Attorney's response thereto and take any action deemed necessary with Attorney and/or the represented person to address and resolve the complaint, and the disposition of the complaint shall be communicated to the represented person as soon as reasonably possible. The PDM may then follow-up with the Presiding Court Judge to confirm or advise that the complaint has been, or is in the process of being, addressed and resolved. The foregoing procedure does not interfere with or otherwise impair the Court/Office of Public Defense's ability and/or duty to monitor the performance of attorneys appearing before the Court.

b. Additionally, during the term of this Agreement, in order to help ensure that clients are consistently provided effective legal representation, and without limitation to any other means or methods of performance monitoring/evaluation the County may deem necessary/appropriate, Attorney acknowledges that the County and/or the PDM have the right to periodically ask, without limitation, the Court and/or other attorneys and/or persons previously represented by Attorney to provide the County with an evaluation/assessment of the quality and effectiveness of Attorney's performance of legal services and related duties and obligations under this Agreement, provided that such inquiry shall not be made of any person represented, absent a complaint from such person, during the course of representation.

19. **TERMINATION.**

a. In addition to any other automatic or discretionary termination provisions set forth in this Agreement, this Agreement shall automatically terminate in the event that Attorney is suspended/disbarred from the practice of law in Washington, effective without notice as of the date of suspension/disbarment. In such event, Attorney shall be liable up to \$5,000.00 for any additional costs or expenses incurred by the County and/or the Court relating to the appointment of substitute legal counsel for any person(s) whom Attorney was appointed to represent hereunder; and the County shall be entitled and authorized to setoff and deduct any such additional costs or expenses from any unpaid compensation owing to Attorney hereunder.

Further, in the event that the Court enters an order that prohibits or disqualifies Attorney from receiving any further appointments hereunder for any reason whatsoever, this

Agreement shall automatically terminate without further notice as of the date such order is entered by the court. In the event that the court enters such an order because of unethical/unprofessional conduct by Attorney and/or because of Attorney's breach of this Agreement and the court determines at that time that the circumstances justify or require a substitution of appointed counsel for any person(s) whom Attorney was appointed to represent hereunder, Attorney shall be liable up to \$5,000.00 for any additional costs or expenses incurred by the County and/or the Court relating to such substitute appointment(s); and the County shall be entitled and authorized to setoff and deduct any such additional costs or expenses from any unpaid compensation owing to Attorney hereunder.

b. In addition to the above-referenced automatic termination provisions, the County may elect to terminate this Agreement in the event Attorney fails for whatever reason to comply with any provision of this Agreement after giving Attorney ten (10) business days advance written notice to cure, which notice shall specify the reason(s) for the notice, the act(s) necessary to cure Attorney's failure(s), and the consequence if the failure(s) is/are not cured within said ten (10) day period (e.g., termination without further notice or potential termination upon further notice). The County's right to terminate this Agreement in such regard shall be in addition to any other rights and remedies available to the County.

c. In addition to the foregoing provisions regarding termination, either party may elect to terminate this Agreement with or without cause or reason by providing the other party with sixty (60) days advance written notice of such election. Attorney shall continue to receive case appointments during said sixty (60) day notice period and shall have continued responsibility for those appointed cases pursuant to paragraph 6 above. A sixty (60) day notice of termination given by either party under this paragraph 19.c. shall be fully and immediately effective when received by the recipient party pursuant to the provisions of below paragraph 32 (notwithstanding the inclusion of any contrary terms or language in the notice) without any need for formal or informal acceptance or any other response by the recipient party, and such notice may not thereafter be rescinded/revoked by the party giving such notice unless such rescission/revocation is expressly acknowledged and agreed to by the recipient party in writing in the recipient party's sole discretion.

d. In any event, regardless of the manner in which this Agreement is terminated, Attorney acknowledges and agrees that Attorney shall not be entitled to receive any further compensation from the County in the event this Agreement is terminated; provided that, Attorney shall be entitled to be paid for any unpaid compensation duly earned by Attorney under this Agreement up to the date of termination. Additionally, as required by paragraph 6 above, the termination of this Agreement, regardless of the manner of termination, shall not relieve Attorney from the obligation and duty to continue representing all persons whom Attorney was appointed to represent prior to the termination unless Attorney is expressly barred or prohibited from doing so by court order and/or the suspension/disbarment of Attorney from the practice of law in Washington.

e. If the County decides in its discretion to provide public defense representation in Court through a County agency (such as an Office of Public Defense or similar entity) that would reduce or fully eliminate the need for continuing this Agreement with Attorney, the County will notify Attorney of the County's intentions in that regard as soon as reasonably practicable so that Attorney and the County can coordinate and pursue an appropriate transition.

20. **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.** Attorney fully understands, acknowledges, and agrees that Attorney shall not be an agent, representative, or employee of the County or the Court for any

type of purpose or situation whatsoever (including, without limitation, for purposes of any type of wage, hours/overtime, workers/industrial insurance compensation, unemployment, fair labor, and/or employee benefit/leave laws, disability act coverage or rules, and/or regulations) and that Attorney, as of the date of this Agreement and throughout its entire term, is and will always be acting and operating as a fully independent contractor. In that regard, subject to Attorney's duties, responsibilities and obligations imposed under this Agreement, Attorney shall have sole and absolute discretion using Attorney's best professional legal judgment to determine the manner and means of providing the legal representation services required under this Agreement; and neither the County, the PDM, nor the Court shall have any authority or duty to directly control the actual performance of Attorney's professional services hereunder.

21. **NON-ASSIGNMENT AND TEMPORARY SUBSTITUTIONS.** Except as otherwise expressly provided in paragraphs 21.a. and 21.b. below, Attorney shall not allow or arrange for any other person to perform any of the services required by this Agreement, nor shall Attorney assign, subcontract out, or otherwise delegate any of Attorney's rights, responsibilities, or obligations under this Agreement.

a. Attorney and any of the other Superior Court Defense Panel members may mutually agree to make temporary, substitute appearances for each other on routine docket matters and routine court hearings on an as-needed basis as approved by the court and by the person being represented (if that person has previously discussed the case with his/her appointed attorney). Any compensation or consideration (if any) to be paid or given by Attorney to the other Superior Court Defense Panel members for such substitution(s) shall be a matter of direct negotiation and agreement between Attorney and said other panel members, and said other members shall not be entitled to receive any additional compensation from the County for such substitution(s).

b. In the event Attorney needs or desires to take up to a maximum of four (4) consecutive weeks (or such longer requested period of time as may be expressly pre-approved in writing by the PDM on a case-by-case basis, in his sole and absolute discretion) leave of absence from the practice of law and/or the requirements of representation under this Agreement during the term of this Agreement and is unable to obtain the assistance of the other Superior Court Defense Panel members during such temporary absence, Attorney may seek and obtain the assistance of another Washington-licensed attorney (subject to pre-approval of such attorney by the PDM which shall not be unreasonably withheld) to make temporary, substitute appearances for Attorney during such absence on routine docket matters and routine court hearings on an as-needed basis provided that Attorney and such other attorney jointly prepare, sign and file a written certification with the court (with a copy to be provided to the PDM) in all such matters and hearings that expressly certifies that such other attorney has reviewed this Agreement and fully meets all criteria, qualifications, and requirements under this Agreement to render legal services and provided further that such temporary substitution is expressly authorized on the court record by the court and the particular person(s) being represented by Attorney who is/are affected by such substitution of legal counsel.

(i) Any compensation or consideration (if any) to be paid or given by Attorney to such other attorney for such substitution(s) shall be a matter of direct negotiation and agreement between Attorney and such other attorney, and such other attorney shall not be entitled to receive any compensation from the County for such substitution(s).

(ii) Unless called to active military duty, Attorney shall be responsible to ensure that such other attorney fully complies with all terms and conditions of this Agreement during such temporary absence period (including, without limitation, the

requirement to maintain the insurance coverage specified in paragraph 17 above), and Attorney shall be liable for any damages or losses sustained as a result of such other attorney's non-compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

c. In the event Attorney is called up for active military duty or for direct civilian support of active military operations, Attorney shall provide the PDM with written notice of such event within five (5) business days of Attorney being called up so that the PDM, and Attorney can coordinate and arrange for an appropriate substitute attorney to handle Attorney's duties under this Agreement while Attorney is on military leave and any reasonable back-to-civilian-life transition time requested by Attorney upon return. The selection of a substitute attorney shall be subject to the PDM's approval and such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. Conditioned upon Attorney complying with said notice and cooperation requirements, Attorney shall be entitled to resume Attorney's contract duties hereunder upon written request to the PDM within a reasonable time after Attorney's return from active service, but Attorney shall receive no compensation under this Agreement while on leave or during any such transition time.

22. **VACANCY AND REPLACEMENT.** In the event this Agreement is terminated by either party prior to the expiration date specified in paragraph 1 above, the County may initiate, implement and pursue any actions or process deemed appropriate/necessary to seek, select, and contract with another qualified attorney to replace and succeed Attorney in representing indigent persons in Superior Court.

23. **OTHER APPOINTMENTS.** Attorney shall not enter into any contract/arrangement to perform criminal prosecution services in any court or jurisdiction. Subject to, and without limiting/waiving, Attorney's duties and obligations under this Agreement, Attorney may enter into a part-time contract/arrangement to receive public defense appointments in another court or jurisdiction, provided that, and on the indispensable condition that, Attorney's duties and obligations under said part-time contract/arrangement will not conflict with or interfere with Attorney's ability to timely and effectively perform Attorney's duties and obligations under this Agreement.

24. **TEMPORARY JUDICIAL SERVICE.** Subject to, and without limiting/waiving, Attorney's duties and obligations under this Agreement, Attorney may temporarily serve as a judge pro tem in any capacity and under any circumstances except on any criminal cases pending before the Court, provided that, and on the indispensable condition that, it would not conflict with or interfere with Attorney's ability to timely and effectively perform Attorney's duties and obligations under this Agreement. Any potential exceptions to the foregoing limitation on Attorney serving as a judge pro tem would be strictly on a case-by-case basis and would be strictly subject to Attorney obtaining the PDM's prior express approval and authorization, which decision shall be decided on a case-by-case basis in the PDM's sole and absolute discretion.

25. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT.** This Agreement constitutes the entire integrated agreement and understanding of the undersigned parties. No amendment, modification or other type of change to this Agreement shall be valid or enforceable unless reduced to writing and signed by the parties.

26. **CAPTIONS; TIME COMPUTATION.**

a. The captions and headings herein are for convenience only and shall not be relied upon or used to interpret or construe this Agreement or any portion thereof.

b. Unless otherwise expressly specified herein, any period of time specified in this Agreement shall expire at 5:00 p.m. (PTZ) of the last calendar day of the specified period of time, unless the last day is Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday, as prescribed in RCW 1.16.050, in which event the specified period of time shall expire at 5:00 p.m. (PTZ) of the next business day. Unless otherwise expressly specified herein as being business days only, any period of time specified in this Agreement shall mean and be calculated to include calendar days.

27. **GOVERNING LAW.** This Agreement shall be exclusively construed under and interpreted consistent with the laws of the state of Washington.

28. **BINDING EFFECT.** Strictly subject to the above restrictions against assignment, subcontracting, or delegation, this Agreement shall be binding upon Attorney's heirs, legal/personal representatives, successors, and assigns.

29. **SEVERABILITY.** In the event that any one or more provisions contained in this Agreement shall, for whatever reason, be determined by arbitration to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision(s) shall not affect any other provision hereof, and this Agreement shall nevertheless be construed and enforced as if such invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision(s) were not contained herein.

30. **NON-WAIVER.** A party's express or implied consent to or waiver of any breach or default by the other party in the performance of such other party's obligations hereunder shall not be deemed or construed to be a consent to or waiver of any other breach or default in the performance by such other party of the same obligations or any other obligation(s) of such other party hereunder.

31. **DISPUTE RESOLUTION.**

a. The parties hereby specifically waive, release, and irrevocably relinquish any and all right to file a court lawsuit of any type to address any claims or dispute between the parties involving the performance or interpretation of this Agreement or that in any other way relate to, or arise from, this Agreement, and regardless of whether money damages, equitable relief, or any other type of relief is being sought. Provided, however, if necessary due to a party's disregard of and failure to abide by the non-judicial Dispute Resolution provisions contained in this paragraph 31, the other party may pursue court action to seek and obtain an order compelling and enforcing such Dispute Resolution provisions, and as part of such action and court order, the court shall order the party not complying with the requirements of such Dispute Resolution provisions to pay the other party's incurred attorney fees and costs.

b. Accordingly, in furtherance of the parties' above-stated agreement to submit any and all claims and disputes to non-judicial resolution, in the event any type of dispute arises between the parties involving the performance or interpretation of this Agreement, or that in any other way relates to, or arises from, this Agreement, either party may then make written demand on the other party to submit the dispute to mediation through the assistance of an experienced mediator chosen by mutual agreement of the parties who must be a Washington-licensed attorney experienced in contract disputes. The mediation shall occur within thirty (30) days of the mediation

demand, unless the parties mutually agree otherwise. The County shall pay one-half of the mediator's fees and expenses, and Attorney shall pay the other one-half of such fees and expenses.

c. In the event that mediation proves unsuccessful in resolving the dispute, the parties shall submit the dispute for resolution via binding arbitration pursuant to RCW Chapter 7.04A. A single arbitrator (who must be a Washington-licensed attorney experienced in contract disputes) shall be selected by agreement of the parties or, in the absence of agreement, each party shall select one (1) arbitrator (who must be a Washington-licensed attorney experienced in contract disputes) and those two (2) so selected arbitrators shall mutually select a third arbitrator (who must be a Washington-licensed attorney experienced in contract disputes). The County shall pay one-half of the fees and expenses of the arbitrator(s), and Attorney shall pay the other one-half of such fees and expenses. The provisions of RCW Chapter 7.04A and applicable Mandatory Arbitration Rules as adopted and implemented in Court shall be binding as to procedure, except as to the right of appeal, which shall not be applicable. Within ten (10) business days after the unsuccessful mediation session, the arbitrator(s) shall be selected and designated, and the hearing shall be held within thirty (30) business days after designation of the arbitrator(s), unless the parties mutually agree otherwise. The arbitrator(s) shall render a written decision and award within ten (10) business days of such hearing. Without limitation, the arbitrator(s) may award damages, specific performance, and/or injunctive relief, and may register a judgment in Court, including judgment by default. The most prevailing party shall be entitled to recover such party's reasonable attorneys' fees, costs and expenses from the other party as a part of the arbitration decision and award. In the event of suit or action to enforce an arbitration award, venue shall lie exclusively in Superior Court, and the most prevailing party in such suit or action shall be entitled to recover such party's reasonable attorneys' fees, costs and expenses from the other party.

32. NOTICES.

a. Any notices required or permitted to be given by Attorney to the County under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be either personally delivered to the County's PDM at his below-stated office address or mailed, or E-mailed to the County's PDM at his below-stated office address via certified U.S. mail, postage prepaid.

Larry W. Zeigler, Franklin County PDM
Franklin County Office of Public Defense
1016 N 4th Ave
Pasco, WA 99301
OPD@co.franklin.wa.us

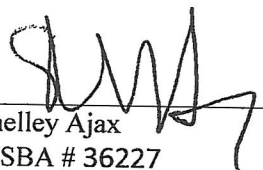
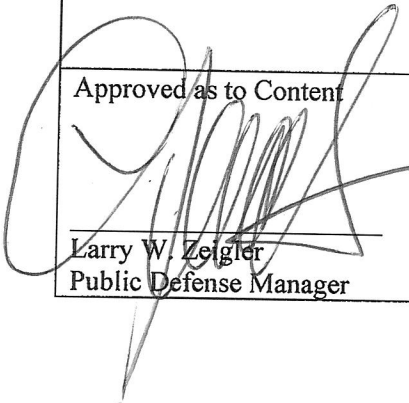
b. Any notices required or permitted to be given by the County to Attorney under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be either personally delivered to Attorney at his/her below-stated business address; mailed to Attorney at his/her business address set forth in paragraph 2.a above, via certified U.S. mail, postage prepaid; or emailed to Attorney at his/her business email address set forth in paragraph 2.a.

c. Any such notices under this Agreement shall be deemed to have been duly given, made, and received when either personally delivered to the notice recipient in the manner described above; when duly deposited in the U.S. mail addressed to the recipient in the manner described above; or when emailed to the recipient in the manner described above. A party may change the address(es) to which notices are to be sent by giving notice of such change of address(es) in conformity with the above provisions of this paragraph for the giving of notice.

33. **LEGAL COMPLIANCE.** Attorney agrees to and shall strictly follow and comply with any and all federal, state, local, and administrative laws, rules, and regulations applicable to Attorney's pursuit and performance of activities under this Agreement. Without limitation in that regard, Attorney shall timely and fully pay all applicable taxes, fees, licenses, and other payments required by law; and Attorney shall fully comply with any and all anti-discrimination laws and policies including, without limitation, the County's policy that no person will be subjected to discrimination by the County or their contractors based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, handicap/disability, personal background, creed, or political or religious affiliation.

34. **PUBLIC DEFENSE MANAGER.** Attorney acknowledges that the County has employed the PDM to coordinate, monitor, and evaluate the performances and compliance of independent contractor attorneys (like Attorney) under public defense agreements with the County. Attorney further acknowledges that the County has the right and discretion to direct the PDM to assume and fulfill various roles and functions under this Agreement, Attorney agrees to reasonably cooperate with the PDM (and his designees), and to promptly comply with reasonable requests from the PDM (and/or his designees), to allow for the effective monitoring and evaluation of Attorney's performance under this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have entered into and executed this Agreement on the date set forth below.

 Shelley Ajax WSBA # 36227  Approved as to Content Larry W. Zeigler Public Defense Manager	 Chair _____ Date _____ Chair Pro Tem _____ Member _____
 Date <u>8-9-21</u>	Constituting the Board of Commissioners for Franklin County, WA Date <u>8/10/2021</u>