



# Franklin County Corrections Center

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Pasco, WA 99301

509-545-3549

Chief K. Harmon [KHarmon@franklincountywa.gov](mailto:KHarmon@franklincountywa.gov)

Captain J. Jansky [JJansky@franklincountywa.gov](mailto:JJansky@franklincountywa.gov)



Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I am writing to respectfully request a modified exemption to the hiring freeze for Correctional Officers at the Franklin County Jail to ensure the safety and security of our facility, inmates, staff, and visitors. We are requesting permission to hire as needed to fill Correction Officer positions with leaving 2 vacant positions for the remainder of the 2025 Calander year. This would give us the ability to maintain safe staffing levels, assist the county during this financial time, and not have to keep submitting request letters every other week.

We are going to be down 7 vacant positions again, even after we have hired 3 of the 4 we requested last time from the hiring freeze. This is due to more staff leaving and accepting patrol / police jobs. In Corrections, we hire quality people, and other agencies tend to look at our staff to hire. We would like to do our part to assist the County, but the current staffing levels are insufficient to meet the operational demands and maintain a secure environment, posing risks to all stakeholders.

The Franklin County Jail faces increasing challenges due to inmate population growth, heightened security needs, and the complexity of managing a correctional facility. Insufficient staffing compromises our ability to conduct timely security checks, respond to emergencies, and maintain order, which directly impacts the safety of inmates, staff, and guests. To address these critical needs, I respectfully request the Commission to approve the modified exemption for correctional officers to ensure compliance with safety standards.

Thank you for your time and commitment to the well-being of our community and the Franklin County Jail.

Sincerely,

*Chief K. Harmon*



# FRANKLIN COUNTY

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

STEPHEN BAUMAN  
DISTRICT 1

ROCKY MULLEN  
DISTRICT 2

CLINT DIDIER  
DISTRICT 3

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County Administrator Brian Dansel

June 24, 2025

Dear Chief Harmon,

Thank you for your letter and for clearly outlining the ongoing staffing challenges at the Franklin County Jail. The Board of Commissioners sincerely appreciates your proactive approach and dedication to maintaining safety and security at the facility.

After careful review and consideration, the Board has approved a **modified exemption** to the countywide hiring freeze for **Correctional Officer positions** within the Franklin County Jail. This exemption will allow your department to hire as needed to fill vacant correctional officer positions, while maintaining a minimum of two vacancies through the end of the 2025 calendar year, as proposed in your request.

We recognize the essential role your staff plays in protecting public safety and ensuring the orderly operation of the jail, especially during this period of financial constraint. Your willingness to support the County's broader cost-saving efforts while balancing operational needs is commendable, and we are confident this modified exemption strikes an appropriate balance.

Please continue to keep the Board informed on staffing levels and any critical developments moving forward. We remain committed to supporting your department and working together to navigate these challenges. Thank you again for your leadership and continued service to Franklin County.

Sincerely,

Franklin County Board of Commissioners  
cc: County Administrator  
Human Resources Director