

# the Courthouse Journal

[WACOUNTIES.ORG](http://WACOUNTIES.ORG)

January 15, 2010

Issue No. 1  
Inside the  
Courthouse Journal

Courts, Public Safety,  
Law & Justice  
Pages 6-7

Environment, Land Use  
& Resources  
Page 7

General Government  
Page 8

Transportation &  
Public Works  
Pages 8-9

Association News  
Pages 9-11

Training &  
Upcoming Events  
Page 11

Courthouse Ramblings  
Pages 11-13

WSAC Financial Svcs  
Page 13

Attachments  
Page 14

*Washington Association of County Officials  
Washington State Association of Counties*

## Governor Gregoire Announces Plan to Enhance Community Protection, Safety of Officers

Governor Chris Gregoire today outlined a series of proposals to increase the safety of communities, as well as the law enforcement officers that protect them.

"In recent months, I have personally met too many grieving law enforcement families, who through the violence of a stranger have lost a mother, a father, a spouse, a son, a daughter," Gregoire said. "I pledged I would support them, and all our men and women in uniform."

Gregoire said she is proposing to add a new option in the state's justice system: guilty and mentally ill. This option would allow courts to find a person guilty of a crime and sentence them to prison, instead of a state psychiatric hospital.

"The rights of dangerous mentally ill offenders can't trump the safety of our families," Gregoire said. "If an offender is guilty and mentally ill, they will be guaranteed appropriate treatment inside our prison system."

Gregoire added that for those people who have been found not guilty by reason of insanity, and therefore have not been convicted of a crime, she is proposing they face a newly created Safety Review Panel, which will consider the release with "an eye toward protecting our community."

Gregoire also announced she plans to ask the Legislature to amend the constitution, and provide judges the discretion to deny bail where public safety is at risk.

"We would like to thank the Governor for once again reaching out to and listening to and supporting the recommendations of the law enforcement community," said Don Pierce, executive director of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs. "We believe these recommendations increase public safety in a thoughtful way. However, we must realize that we do not live in a failsafe society and we will not be able to prevent all tragedies."

Additionally, Gregoire said she is:

-Directing the Department of Corrections to link to the State Victim Notification System to make certain the department is notified when an offender is released from jail.

**Job announcements & links to County Employment pages at:**

<http://wacounties.org/>

## the Courthouse Journal

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and the Washington State Association of Counties

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We welcome your suggestions and contributions. The weekly / bi-weekly deadline is noon Wednesdays. Direct inquiries and correspondence to - *The Courthouse Journal*, 206 Tenth Av SE, Olympia, WA 98501

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-Working with the law enforcement community to improve computer alerts so an officer knows whether an individual they are contacting has a history of violent criminal behavior.

-Seeking stiffer penalties for offenders in Community Custody who assault a law enforcement officer or a community corrections officer.

-Ensuring that families of fallen officers receive the support they deserve by proposing that survivors receive benefits regardless of length of service. Gregoire is also proposing that children of fallen officers receive a free college education.

## Update on WACO Legislative Package

by James McMahan, WACO Staff

Each year, the WACO membership produces a 'WACO Legislative Package' comprised of the highest priority legislation among each of the seven WACO affiliates. WACO staff prioritizes their time and attention during the legislative session advocating the contents of the WACO Legislative Package to the Legislature.

As of Thursday, January 15 the WACO Legislative Package stands as follows:

- **Allow the county legislative authority to impose an existing local option sales tax up to 3/10<sup>th</sup> of one percent.**
  - **HB 2773** is scheduled for a public hearing in the House Finance Committee on Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM.
  - **SB 6424** has not yet been scheduled for a public hearing.
- **Allow the county legislative authority to impose a local option utility tax.**
  - **HB 2749** is scheduled for a public hearing in the House Finance Committee on Tuesday, January 19 at 1:30 PM.
- **Allow continuation of highly successful meth enforcement pilot programs in thirteen rural counties. (2 parts)**
  - **Part 1: Amend the State Fiscal Year 2010 budget to correct the allotment schedule, allowing counties to receive the full amount of the 4<sup>th</sup> year pilot funding as originally expected.**
    - a. Included in the Governor's proposed budget. Legislative proposed budgets are expected to be revealed in the coming weeks.
  - **Part 2: Secure ongoing and permanent state financial assistance for the Sheriff, Prosecutor and Clerk in counties that have been historically underserved by federal narcotics task force funding.**
    - a. Not included in the Governor's proposed budget. Legislative proposed budgets are expected to be revealed in the coming weeks.

## Legislative Committee Schedules and Agendas:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/calendar.cfm>

**Bill Information:** [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

- **Remove the requirement that return mail ballot envelope have a secrecy flap.**
  - HB 1880 is in the House Rules Committee awaiting a “pull.”
  - SB 6430 is scheduled for a public hearing in the Senate Governmental Operations & Elections Committee on Thursday, January 21 at 3:30 PM.
- **Limit the responsibility of county clerks in certain actions and appropriately place it with the parties to the action.**
  - HB 1003 is in the House Judiciary Committee awaiting a public hearing.
- **Change child pornography statutes to respond to a specific appellate court decision.**
  - HB 2424 was heard in the House Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee on January 12 and is scheduled for executive session on Friday, January 15, 2010.
  - SB 6201 is in the Senate Judiciary Committee awaiting a public hearing.
- **Remove the profitability in certain tax foreclosure scams.**
  - HB 2410 is scheduled for a public hearing in the House Finance Committee on Friday, January 15 at 1:30 PM.
  - SB 6190 is scheduled for a public hearing in the Senate Financial Institutions and Housing & Insurance Committee on Tuesday, January 19 at 10:00 AM.
- **Improve ballot title information.**
  - HB 1057 has been replaced by HB 2702.
  - HB 2702 is in the House State Government & Tribal Affairs Committee awaiting a public hearing.
  - SB 5098 is in the Senate Government Operations & Elections Committee awaiting a public hearing.

## **REMINDER: WACO Legislative Committee**

*by James McMahan, WACO Staff*

The WACO Legislative Committee meets every week during the legislative session. The next WACO Legislative Committee is scheduled for Thursday, January 21 at 2:00 PM. All WACO members are welcome and invited to participate.

The Committee reviews recently introduced and active legislation related to any affiliate and considers requests for WACO to take a position or take action on legislation. The Committee also reviews the WACO Legislative Package and provides guidance to the WACO staff in that effort. Each WACO affiliate, time permitting, has an opportunity to review legislative action from their perspective.

Please contact the WACO Office to learn the call in numbers for the WACO Legislative Committee.

## **Cut-Off Dates**

*by James McMahan, WACO Staff*

Cut-off dates are very important dates for those who live in the legislative world. Cut-off dates are administrative deadlines that the Legislature imposes on itself to control the number of bills that flow through the legislative process. There are seven cut-off dates in each legislative session. The following lists the remaining cut-off dates for the 2010 legislative session:

1. **Tuesday, February 2:** House bills must pass policy committees in the House.
2. **Friday, February 5:** Senate bills must pass policy committees in the Senate; House bills must pass the House Appropriations Committee.
3. **Tuesday, February 9:** Senate bills must pass the Senate Ways & Means Committee and the Senate Transportation Committee; House bills must pass the House Transportation Committee.
4. **Tuesday, February 16:** Bills must pass their chamber of origin (House bills must pass the House, and Senate bills must pass the Senate); and
5. **Tuesday, February 23:** Senate bills must pass policy committees in the House.

6. **Thursday, February 25:** Senate bills must pass the House Appropriations Committee.
7. **Friday, February 26:** House bills must pass Senate policy committees.
8. **Monday, March 1:** House bills must pass the Senate Ways & Means Committee and the Senate Transportation Committee; Senate bills must pass the House Appropriations Committee and House Transportation Committee.
9. **Friday, March 5:** Bills must pass the opposite chamber (House bills must pass the Senate, and Senate bills must pass the House).

The 2010 Legislative Session ends on Thursday, March 11.

## Public Disclosure Hearings Next Week

*by James McMahan, WACO Staff*

Ramsey Ramerman, a well known attorney representing local governments on Open Public Records Act issues, has put forth 5 recommendations that several of our members have taken a particular interest in:

1. Add a "meet and confirm" provision to increase transparency through communication while decreasing unnecessary, costly litigation
2. Reform the penalty provisions to ensure penalties serve as a deterrent, not a windfall
3. Implement a provision to reduce the taxpayer subsidy for search time by charging requesters under some circumstances, which will reduce harassing requesters without affecting access for most of the public
4. Create a Public Records Officer Association and standardized training to capitalize on existing resources and standardize procedures.
5. Create a Public Records Agency to resolve PRA disputes without involving courts.

Some of these recommendations have been realized in actual legislation this year:

**HB 2582/SB 6367** - Allowing agencies to direct requesters to their web site for public records.

**HB 2583/SB 6368** - Concerning conferences prior to filing actions alleging a public records request violation.

**SB 6408** - Changing remedies for actions under the public records act.

**HB 2736/SB 6383** - Establishing the office of open records.

The Senate Government Operations & Elections Committee is holding a hearing on three of the four bills mentioned above on Tuesday, Jan 19 at 1:30 PM.

The House will be hearing one of these bills on Tuesday, Jan 19 at 1:30 PM and another on Friday, Jan 22 at 1:30.

We expect that our local government association partners will be strong supporters of these bills next week. If you are interested in attending the hearing, please coordinate with the WACO office.

There are no scheduled public hearings on **HB 2736/SB 6383** or **SB 6408**.

Government Operations & Elections\*01/19/10 1:30 pm  
 Full Committee  
 Senate Hearing Rm 2  
 J.A. Cherberg Building  
 Olympia, WA

REVISED 1/14/2010 1:09 PM

Public Hearing:

1. **SB 6222** - Exempting certain nonconviction data from public inspection and copying under the public records act.
2. **SB 6367** - Allowing agencies to direct requesters to their web site for public records.
3. **SB 6368** - Concerning conferences prior to filing actions alleging a public records request violation.

4. **SB 6408** - Changing remedies for actions under the public records act.
5. **SB 6428** - Exempting from disclosure personal information used to identify a person filing a complaint with an agency.

Possible executive session on bills heard in committee. Other business.

#### Committee Meeting Documents

*Note: Documents are not available online until the meeting has begun.*

State Government & Tribal Affairs\* 01/19/10 1:30 pm

Full Committee  
House Hearing Rm D  
John L. O'Brien Building  
Olympia, WA

REVISED 1/14/2010 2:36 PM

Public Hearing:

1. **HB 2398** - Modifying election notice provisions.
2. **HB 2448** - Changing the definition of "immediate family" for purpose of membership on the Washington citizens' commission on salaries for elected officials.
3. **HB 2575** - Expanding the membership of the capital projects advisory review board.
4. **HB 2583** - **Concerning conferences prior to filing actions alleging a public records request violation.**

Work Session: Background information for **HB 2617** - Eliminating Boards and Commissions.

Possible Executive Session: Bills previously heard in committee.

#### Committee Meeting Documents

*Note: Documents are not available online until the meeting has begun.*

State Government & Tribal Affairs 01/22/10 1:30 pm

Full Committee  
House Hearing Rm D  
John L. O'Brien Building  
Olympia, WA

Public Hearing:

1. **HB 2603** - Requiring agencies to give small businesses an opportunity to comply with a state law or agency rule before imposing a penalty.
2. **HB 2675** - Concerning an alternative process for selecting an electrical contractor or a mechanical contractor, or both, for general contractor/construction manager projects.
3. **HB 2704** - Transferring the Washington main street program to the department of archaeology and historic preservation.
4. **HB 2720** - Concerning the Washington soldiers' home.
5. **HB 2582** - **Allowing agencies to direct requesters to their web site for public records.**

Possible Executive Session: Bills previously heard in committee.

## **NACo-Nationwide Scholarship Open now to High School Seniors**

This spring, four high school seniors will earn \$2,000 for college from the NACo-Nationwide Scholarship. Winning applicants will have written a short essay describing why it's important for a public-sector employee to start saving early for retirement.

This is the fifth consecutive year that Nationwide and NACo have teamed up to encourage high-school seniors to think about retirement.

Why spur students who haven't even started full-time work to think about retirement? Three reasons — by applying for the scholarship the students:

1. must consider the financial impact of their decisions about college and their career, and realize it is never too soon to start thinking about saving for retirement
2. begin to recognize the value perspective in turbulent financial times when difficult decisions often are required, and
3. identify specific actions that help prepare for a financially successful future.

To be eligible, applicants must be graduating high school seniors who are legal U.S. residents and their parent or grandparent must be enrolled in and contributing to the NACo 457 Deferred Compensation Plan. In addition, the student must enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study no later than the fall term of the 2010–2011 school year at an accredited two- or four-year college.

In addition to these qualifications, applicants will also be asked to answer a question (in 500 words or fewer) on why it is important for a public-sector employee to start early when saving for retirement.

**The application and entry must be submitted online no later than Jan. 31, 2010.**

The NACo-Nationwide Scholarship is just one of the services arising out of a 30-year relationship between Nationwide and the National Association of Counties. As provider of the NACo deferred compensation program, Nationwide regularly reports to the NACo Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee on industry trends, updates statistics on the program and provides ongoing education on retirement issues.

NACo receives payment from Nationwide Retirement Solutions for NACo's endorsement and license of its name and logo for use by Nationwide in connection with the NACo Deferred Compensation Plan, and related products and services. These funds are used by NACo to enhance programs and services for the benefit of its members. For more information, go to [www.nrsforu.com/scholarship](http://www.nrsforu.com/scholarship).

**CORRECTION:** In the last edition of the Courthouse Journal, we printed the list of new WACO Committees for 2010. There is a correction to the WACO Legislative Committee; the Legislative Chair for the Coroners/Medical Examiners is Tim Davidson, Cowlitz County Coroner. Gary Warnock, Thurston County Coroner was incorrectly listed as Chair.

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## ***Courts, Public Safety, Law & Justice***

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### **Of interest to Coroners and Medical Examiners**

**SB 6277**, disposition of human remains, the right to control determine disposition is relinquished and passed on if the one in control is accused of murder or manslaughter of the decedent. **SB 6394**, says a person may appoint someone to control disposition of their remains and that appointment supersedes the right of spouse, children, etc. Both are set for hearing in Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, January 19, at 10:00 a.m.

On Wednesday, January 20, at 1:30 p.m. the House Committee on Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness will hear **HB 2389**, an act relating to forensic investigations, and **HB 2426**, an act relating to vulnerable adults. **HB 2389** is a revised version of a bill Representative Jim Moeller proposed in the interim. It would make the Forensic Investigations Council responsible for recommending minimum standards for autopsy facilities and would add another medical examiner to the Forensic Investigations Council. The county coroners and medical examiners were involved in the interim discussion and have no objections to the current form of the bill.

**HB 2426** requires mandatory reporters to notify the county coroner or medical examiner of any suspected abuse of vulnerable adults.

### **More Forensic Investigations Council**

**HB 2389** wants to add a second medical examiner to the Forensic Investigations Council while **SB 6340/HB 2767** would add a member of the defense bar and a scientist. No hearing has been set on **SB 6340** or its companion but **HB 2389** is up next week.

The last bill of interest is still in draft form. **Z 0780.6** deals with fatality reviews of child welfare deaths, and will be heard on Thursday, January 21, at 3:30 p.m. in Senate Human Services and Corrections.

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## ***Environment, Land Use & Resources***

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### **New Web Resource for Funding Agency**

The state Recreation and Conservation Office has launched a newly redesigned Web site: [www.rco.wa.gov](http://www.rco.wa.gov). We hope the fresh and simplified Web site will make it easier and faster for the public, our grant applicants, and you to find the information you need. In addition to a new look, other new features of our Web site include:

- **Improved Navigation:** New navigation choices to help you find what you need without having to be intimately familiar with the agency. Moving through the entire Web site is more intuitive.
- **Improved Grant Information:** Newly designed pages to help you find the specific grant program you need, without having to read technical manuals. The new site offers three ways to pick a grant program – by who you are, by what you want to do, or for those already familiar with our grants, by grant program title. We also are launching a page customized for grant recipients that will provide one place for important news and information.
- **More Information:** More detailed information on the seven boards, councils, and offices supported by RCO, including expanded information on salmon recovery and why it's important to all of us.
- **Recreational Links:** A new page that links you to other organizations that provide recreational opportunities, making it easier for you to plan your next outdoor adventure.

*The Recreation and Conservation Office provides support to the following organizations:*

- *Recreation and Conservation Funding Board*
- *Salmon Recovery Funding Board*
- *Washington Biodiversity Council*
- *Washington Invasive Species Council*
- *Washington Forum on Monitoring Salmon Recovery and Watershed Health*
- *Governor's Salmon Recovery Office*
- *Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group*

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## **General Government Issues**

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### **Federal Judges: Washington Felony Inmates Should Get Vote**

*From the Seattle Times, 01/05/2010*

A federal appeals court has ruled that imprisoned felons should be allowed to vote in Washington to ensure that racial minorities are protected under the Voting Rights Act.

Tuesday's 2-1 ruling by a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the 2000 ruling of a district judge in Spokane. That judge had ruled that state law did not violate the act, and dismissed a lawsuit filed by a former prison inmate from Bellevue.

The two appellate judges ruled that disparities in the state's justice system "cannot be explained in race-neutral ways."

A spokeswoman says state Attorney General Rob McKenna is weighing the state's next step.

### **Energy Efficient Appliance Procurement Assistance Available for Counties**

*by Jim Borthen, U.S. EPA Region 10 Energy Star Coordinator*

The Energy Star program (which is jointly run by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy) has a major role in evaluating appliances and awarding Energy Star labels to those that meet stringent criteria for energy efficiency. I can say, with a high level of confidence, that a great deal of effort is expended by the program to ensure that the award of the Energy Star label truly means something.

What it means is that the labeled product has a high level of energy efficiency, and that it is more efficient than the majority of same type appliances.

The products available with Energy Star ratings include: desktop computers, monitors, computer servers, gaming consoles, food preparation equipment, notebooks and tablets, copiers, fax machines, mailing machines, printers, scanners, and water coolers. And that is just the office equipment.

For the home there are: clothes washers, dehumidifiers, dishwashers, furnaces, water heaters, freezers, heat pumps, lighting, and many other energy efficient products. The following web site contains a more detailed list.

[http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find\\_a\\_product](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product)

But the Energy Star people not only tell you which products are certified to be more energy efficient, they are willing to assist you in your procurement efforts. Samples of procurement language, which you can use in your solicitations, are available for most of the Energy Star rated equipment. Just go to EnergyStar.gov and do a search on "Sample Procurement Language" and look in the search results for an item that includes the equipment of interest.

Also, Energy Star has on line web based training sessions, and downloadable documents to assist in the procurement effort. Go to the following web site and peruse:

[http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=business.bus\\_internet\\_presentations](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=business.bus_internet_presentations)

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## **Transportation & Public Works**

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### **Safe Routes to School Grant Program Seeks County Submittals**

WSDOT recently issued a "call for projects" for its Safe Routes to School program. The goals of the Safe Routes to School grants are to increase the number of children walking and biking to school where it is safe, and if it's not safe, work to make it safer. The program supports pedestrian and bicycle safety projects such as walking to school buses, sidewalks, bike lanes, ped safety education, bicycle safety skills classes, crossing guards, speed feedback signs and

traffic safety cameras. The program itself was created to provide children a safe, healthy alternative to riding the bus or being driven to school.

Eligible Safe Routes projects are those within two-miles of primary and middle schools (grades K-8), and that address engineering solutions, educational and encouragement programs, and law enforcement efforts. Review criteria for the applications are also based on project readiness and need or potential impact.

More detailed information about the grant program and the application process is available on WSDOT's website at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/SafeRoutes/CallForProjects](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/SafeRoutes/CallForProjects). Applications for Safe Routes to School project grants are due to WSDOT on May 3, 2010.

To learn more about the program, a Safe Routes to School Overview Webinar has been scheduled for February 1st from 1:00 to 3:00. To register go to: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/218536304>. For more information, or if you do not have the capacity to participate on a webinar, please contact Charlotte Claybrooke at 360-705-7302.

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## **Association News**

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### **County Treasurer Won't Finish Term**

Thurston County Treasurer Robin Hunt has accepted a new job and will not finish her term, which ends in December 2010.

Her announcement Wednesday appears to boost Olympia City Councilman Joe Hyer's chances of landing the job, at least on an interim basis.

Hunt, 55, earlier had said she would not run for a fourth four-year term. She said Wednesday that she had planned to retire, then learned of the job opportunity through contacts at the state, her former employer.

Hunt didn't say when her last day will be, but she expects it will be about March 1. Electronic Transaction Consultants of Richardson, Texas, hired her as the finance manager for its tolling operations in Washington.

Her announcement comes the same day the Washington State Department of Transportation said it had signed a contract with the company to establish and operate a new statewide customer-service center for toll operations. The company will provide customer service for the Good to Go! electronic tolling program in addition to payment processing, violation collections and business management. It will take over customer service for tolling on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge, State Route 167 high-occupancy toll lanes and, beginning in spring 2011, the State Route 520 floating bridge.

"This is a very exciting opportunity to be part of a new and growing process in transportation management," Hunt wrote in the letter she sent to the county commissioners announcing her pending resignation. "I am lucky to be able to do what I most enjoy – working at the intersection of public service and private enterprise providing strong accounting system design and implementation."

The five-year contract, valued at about \$23 million, was signed Dec. 23. ETC was selected from among five bidders, according to WSDOT. The contract begins Jan. 11. ETC's systems collect about one-third of all toll transactions in the United States, it said.

Hunt's primary job as county treasurer is to receive, hold and distribute money owed to county government. The post is a partisan position; Hunt is a Democrat.

Hyer, a local businessman who won re-election to his council seat in November, confirmed last week that he would run for Hunt's post next year. There is no legal restriction for Hyer to hold the two elected offices at the same time.

The state constitution outlines the process to appoint the person to complete Hunt's term. Thurston County commissioners would appoint one of three nominees whose names are forwarded by the Thurston County Democrats. A party representative was unavailable for comment Wednesday.

The general election in November would determine who holds the office starting in 2011.

Hyer is the treasurer for the Thurston County Democrats. He also has been deeply involved with the city's budgeting process serving on the City Council and has been the chairman of the city's Finance Committee since 2007.

Hunt said she met with Hyer several weeks ago after he had expressed interest in the job. She said she didn't tell Hyer that she might not complete her term. Hyer said he first learned of Hunt's intentions Wednesday afternoon.

Hyer said he would seek the appointment and acknowledged his party ties could give him a leg up in securing it. But he stressed that he has the credentials for the job and expressed hope that the party "is looking for the person with the right skill set."

In her letter to commissioners, Hunt recommended that they appoint Steve Larson, a senior manager in her office, if there is any delay between her resignation and the appointment of her temporary successor.

Hunt was appointed as county treasurer in January 1997 and elected to the post that fall.

She expected that the transition period would be smooth because "my current employees have strong skills in the treasury functions and work well as a team to both get the daily work done and resolve issues as they arise."

### **Plan for National County Government Month**

Start planning today to celebrate National County Government Month (NCGM) in April. This year's theme is "Healthy Counties." A NCGM booklet full of ideas to celebrate NCGM contains a draft proclamation, news release, suggested community activities and more. Booklets will soon be mailed to each member county.

### **New Justice-Related Grants Now Available**

The Bureau of Justice Assistance has grants available for counties to address various justice issues. Applications are due January 21 for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program: Local Solicitation Grant Program. Applications for Enhancing Adult Drug Court Services, Coordination, and Treatment grants and for the [Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program](#) are due Feb. 11. Finally, applications for [Second Chance Act Adult and Juvenile Offender Reentry Demonstration Projects](#) are due March 4. For more information, please visit the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

### **2010 Achievement Award Applications Due February 12**

Give your program and your employees national recognition for unique county programs by applying for a NACo Achievement Award. The Achievement Award program is a non-competitive awards program that recognizes innovative county government programs. NACo is introducing a new application process this year that requires that part of the application information be completed online. Applications, however, must still be mailed and postmarked by February 12.

### **WSAC Seeks Nominations for 2010 NACo County Leadership Institute**

WSAC is seeking nominations for the 2010 County Leadership Institute, which has been moved from New York City to Washington D.C. this year. WSAC members who meet the criteria below and are interested and available in participating in the June 1-5, 2010 event in D.C. should submit an online nomination form **by Friday, January 29** at: [http://www.wacounties.org/wsac/boards\\_membersonly.asp](http://www.wacounties.org/wsac/boards_membersonly.asp)

The WSAC Board of Directors established the following criteria for nomination:

- Member must have served at least one term and have been reelected to office.
- Member must be in an active WSAC leadership capacity, e.g., Board Member, District Officer, LSC Member, etc.
- Member must be willing to continue serve in a leadership position.
- Member will report to the WSAC membership following completion of the program.

Candidates must be elected county officials in NACo member counties, and only one candidate will be enrolled from a given state. Preference will be given to those serving at least one term and no more than eight years in office.

The WSAC Board of Directors approved that WSAC will cover the registration cost of \$1,500 which includes four nights lodging, receptions, lunches and public transportation. Other program costs are supported by Institute sponsors. The selected participant is responsible for travel to and from Washington D.C, some meals, ground transportation to/from airport, and incidentals.

The WSAC Executive Committee will select and forward nominee(s) to NACo and the member chosen will be asked by NACo to fill out an application form. NACo will announce the 2010 participants by April 15.

- Goals:** Participants gain a broad perspective –about themselves as leaders, about the issues facing their communities and about how to engage broad networks of interested parties to develop solutions to difficult challenges facing their communities. Challenged by faculty and peers, CLI attendees explore concepts and develop relationships that affirm and direct their leadership potential at local, state and federal levels.
- Dates:** June 1-5, 2010
- Faculty:** Marty Linsky and Alexander Grashow, Cambridge Leadership Associates  
The curriculum is based on work by Cambridge Leadership Associates, who provided professional development at the WSAC Joint District Meeting in June 2009.
- Location:** Classes at IBM Public Sector Executive Center with hotel accommodations at Sheraton Four Points Hotel, Washington, D.C.
- Program:** Intensive classroom schedule that includes faculty presentations, dialogue, small group activities; local site visit to Arlington County, VA; and three evening events. Attendees have one evening (Thursday night) free.

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## ***Training & Upcoming Events***

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**Washington Counties** – [wacounties.org/Calendar of Events](http://wacounties.org/Calendar%20of%20Events)

**County Training Institute** – [www.countytraininginstitute.org](http://www.countytraininginstitute.org)

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## ***Courthouse Ramblings***

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Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Pierce County Sheriff's Deputy **Kent Mundell Jr.** Deputy Sheriff Mundell passed away on Monday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. Deputy Mundell is the sixth law-enforcement officer to be killed in the Puget Sound area in the past eight weeks. All of the officers and their families have our deepest sympathy and sincere gratitude for their years of service to our counties.

\* \* \* \* \*

WACO extends its sympathies to Grant County Sheriff Frank DeTrolgio and his staff for the loss of **Deputy Sheriff John Bernard**. Bernard was killed on patrol in a one-car accident in rural Grant County. Bernard's son is also a Grant County Deputy Sheriff.

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**The Directory of County Officials in Washington State** will not be printed this year. WACO has sent out changes to the 2009 Directory to all of its members. The directory will be printed again in 2011 and then every other year thereafter. New changes have been received. They are:

**Grays Harbor County** office hours of the Assessor, Auditor, and Treasurer have changed to 9 to 5, closed at lunch from 12 to 1. The Sheriff and Prosecutor's offices are now also closed at noon.

**Garfield County** has a new address for their website, it is [www.co.garfield.wa.us](http://www.co.garfield.wa.us).

**Jefferson County** Courthouse hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

**Snohomish County** Assessor Cindy Portmann's new phone number is 425-388-3678.

**Washington Counties Insurance Fund (WCIF)**

Executive Director ..... Mike Shelton  
mike@wcif.net  
(360)292-4466 (Direct)  
(360) 359-0669 (Cell)

Director of Benefits & Sales..... Krista Whitaker  
krista@wcif.net  
(360)292-4470 (Direct)  
(360) 359-0670 (Cell)

Finance Director ..... Kathi Rauch  
kathi@wcif.net  
(360)292-4473 (Direct)  
(360) 350-8215 (Cell)

Senior Account Executive .....Leanna Olive  
leanna@wcif.net  
(360)292-4468 (Direct)  
(360) 350-8105 (Cell)

Account Executive.....Dale Ensign  
dale@wcif.net  
(360)292-4474 (Direct)  
(360) 359-2228 (Cell)

Account Executive.....Kimberly Breahler  
kimberly@wcif.net  
(360)292-4476 (Direct)  
(360) 350-9188 (Cell)

Account Specialist .....Janée Knigge  
janee@wcif.net  
(360) 292-4471 (Direct)  
(360) 350-8630 (Cell)

Wellness Coordinator & Webmaster ..... Lehua Ball

lehua@wcif.net  
(360) 292-4469 (Direct)  
(360) 584-6217 (Cell)

Office Coordinator ..... Brooklyn Kennedy  
brooklyn@wcif.net  
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[www.wcif.net](http://www.wcif.net)

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## ***WSAC Financial Services Corporation***

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Washington State Association of Counties' members are eligible for a new county employee benefit for Auto and Home Insurance! Through your affiliation with WSAC, this exclusive program with Liberty Mutual gives your County a powerful competitive edge and your employees an **exclusive group discount on auto, home, and other lines of personal insurance**. Plus, with their onsite educational events, you can deliver the tools your employees need to stay safe and secure in your workplace.

To take advantage of this value-added no-cost benefit service, contact Vicki Haworth at:  
360-705-0600 ext 56372 or email her at [Vicki.Haworth@libertymutual.com](mailto:Vicki.Haworth@libertymutual.com)

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## Attachments

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### Welcome to the U.S. Communities Purchasing & Finance Agency

#### (U.S. Communities) website <http://www.uscommunities.org/>

The Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO), the National Association of Counties (NACo), the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP), the National League of Cities (NLC), and the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM), jointly sponsor the

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**Commissioner of Purchases and Supplies**  
**Kansas City, MO.**