



King County

This Executive Order supersedes PHL-7-1-5-EO, "Conducting Inquests in King County", July 28, 2021.

WHEREAS, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 36.24 allows a county coroner to hold an inquest when the death of a person was unnatural, or violent, or resulted from unlawful means, or from suspicious circumstances, or was of such a nature as to indicate the possibility of death by the hand of the deceased or through the instrumentality of some other person; and

WHEREAS, King County Charter Section 320.20 and King County Code Section 2.35A.090.C vests the inquest powers of the coroner in the King County Executive; and

WHEREAS, Section 895 of the King County Charter requires that an Inquest be held to investigate the causes and circumstances of any death where an action, decision or possible failure to offer the appropriate care by a member of any law enforcement agency might have contributed to an individual's death; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court confirmed in *Family of Butts*, 198 Wash.2d 27 (2021), that the County Executive has discretion to determine how an inquest will be conducted so long as there is no "direct and irreconcilable conflict" with state law; and

WHEREAS, the Inquest Program has completed a significant number of inquest hearings under PHL 7-1-5-EO, and these hearings have revealed ways to streamline and further improve the inquest process for the benefit of the public while decreasing the burden on families of deceased persons.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dow Constantine, King County Executive, do hereby rescind and replace PHL 7-1-5-EO, "Conducting Inquests in King County," dated July 28, 2021, and order, direct, and implement the following policy and procedures for conducting inquests and examining police practices.

Dated and effective this __5th__ day of __February__, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dow Constantine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

Attest:

Norm Alberg

Norm Alberg
Director, Records and Licensing Services Division, Department of Executive Services

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 SUBJECT TITLE

King County Inquest Procedures and Panel Review of Law Enforcement Practices

1.2 PURPOSES

- 1.2.1 To establish policies and procedures for whether to order and how to conduct an inquest into the facts, circumstances and causes of any death of an individual where an action, decision or possible failure to offer the appropriate care by a member of any law enforcement agency might have contributed to an individual's death, and occasionally in other cases, as determined by the County Executive. An inquest investigates a death, but does not make any binding adjudicative determinations of civil or criminal liability.
- 1.2.2 To establish a multidisciplinary panel with diverse professional and lived experiences to examine and make recommendations based on the inquest investigation, inquest jury findings and other sources. The panel will evaluate police practices, policy and procedure in order to recommend ways to decrease deadly use of force incidents and loss of life related to an interaction with law enforcement or while in the custody of law enforcement. The panel's determinations are advisory recommendations for the benefit of the public and policy makers.

1.3 ORGANIZATIONS AFFECTED

- 1.3.1 King County Executive.
- 1.3.2 King County Prosecuting Attorney.
- 1.3.3 King County Superior Court.
- 1.3.4 King County Department of Executive Services.

1.4 REFERENCES

- 1.4.1 RCW 36.24 Counties; County Coroner.
- 1.4.2 King County Charter, Section 320.20 - The Executive Branch, Powers and Duties.
- 1.4.3 King County Charter, Section 895 - General Provisions: Mandatory Inquests.
- 1.4.4 King County Code 2.35A.090(B).

- 1.4.5 Washington Rules of Evidence.
- 1.4.6 Washington Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 1.4.7 *Family of Butts v. King County*, 198 Wash.2d 27 (2021) and associated case law.

1.5 DEFINITIONS

- 1.5.1 A person's "death following an interaction with law enforcement, or while in the custody of law enforcement" means situations where an action, decision or failure to offer appropriate care by a member of any law enforcement agency might have contributed to a person's death.
- 1.5.2 "Contribute" means to play a significant part in making something happen.
- 1.5.3 "Investigating agency" means the local or state agency charged with investigating a person's death following an interaction with law enforcement, or while in the custody of law enforcement.
- 1.5.4 "Inquest administrator" means the person who presides over an inquest.
- 1.5.5 "Inquest manager" means the person assigned to manage the inquest program, to assign an administrator and inquest program attorney to a particular inquest, to provide clerical support to the administrator and inquest program attorney, to support the operations of the panel and to report annually to the county executive. The inquest manager may delegate duties as appropriate.
- 1.5.6 "Inquest program" means the program for conducting inquests established by this executive order pursuant to Charter Section 895, KCC 2.35A.090, chapter 36.24 RCW and relevant court cases.
- 1.5.7 "Inquest program attorney" means the attorney assigned to prepare for and present evidence at an inquest in collaboration with an inquest administrator.
- 1.5.8 "Inquest program investigative file" means the records gathered by the inquest program, including various investigations, related to a person's death following an interaction with law enforcement, or while in the custody of law enforcement.
- 1.5.9 "Inquest" means an administrative, fact-finding inquiry into and review of the manner, facts and circumstances of the death of an

individual.

- 1.5.10 “Involved officer” means a member of any law enforcement agency who contributed to a person’s death through a material act or omission.
- 1.5.11 "King County Executive" or “executive” means the official who serves as the county executive of King County pursuant to Article 3 of the King County Charter. As convenient, the executive may delegate responsibilities under this executive order to other persons.
- 1.5.12 "King County Prosecuting Attorney" or “prosecutor” means the official, or the designee of the official, who is elected and serves as prosecuting attorney for King County.
- 1.5.13 "Law enforcement agency" means the same as in RCW 10.116.010(1) as now defined or hereinafter amended.
- 1.5.14 “King County Medical Examiner” or “medical examiner” refers to the Public Health – Seattle and King County division established in KCC 2.35A to fulfill the functions of the medical examiner’s office.
- 1.5.15 "Member of any law enforcement agency" means a “peace officer” as defined in RCW 10.116.010(2) as now defined or hereinafter amended, as well as agents, employees or contractors of any law enforcement agency.
- 1.5.16 “Panel” refers to the multidisciplinary panel, known as the Deadly Incident Review and Recommendation Panel, established in section 4.0 of this order.

1.6 POLICIES

- 1.6.1 The public has a strong interest in a full and transparent review of the circumstances surrounding a person’s death following an interaction with law enforcement, or while in the custody of law enforcement. As such, in accord with King County Charter Section 895, there shall be an inquest into the manner, facts, and circumstances of any death of an individual where an action, decision or possible failure to offer the appropriate care by a member of any law enforcement agency might have contributed to an individual's death, and in any other case, as determined in the discretion of the executive, where a death occurs under suspicious circumstances.
- 1.6.2 The public has a strong interest in examining and understanding deadly use of force incidents involving law enforcement agencies, as well as

other deaths where the action or inaction of law enforcement played a significant role in a person's death. A systematic and timely review of these incidents, including whether the law enforcement agency or its employees acted pursuant to policy and training or otherwise utilized best available practices, may assist the public and policy makers in decreasing deadly encounters with law enforcement and loss of life while in the custody of law enforcement.

1.7 APPLICATION

This executive order shall apply to all inquest proceedings pending or called on the effective date of this order. However, if a date has been scheduled for an inquest to go before a jury when this executive order takes effect, the matter shall proceed under PHL 7-1-5-EO unless the parties agree to application of this current order.

2. PROCESS FOR CALLING AN INQUEST

2.1 IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL INQUEST CASES

2.1.1 The inquest manager shall maintain a comprehensive list of persons who have died in King County following an interaction with law enforcement, or in the custody of law enforcement. The medical examiner, prosecuting attorney, and all law enforcement agencies shall each notify the inquest manager in writing whenever they become aware of a person's death following an interaction with law enforcement, or while in the custody of law enforcement. The inquest manager may also utilize other sources in preparing the comprehensive list.

2.1.2 The inquest manager shall report to the executive whenever any entity named under section 2.1.1 fails to fulfill its notification obligations.

2.2 INQUEST PROGRAM INVESTIGATIVE FILE

2.2.1 The inquest program will gather all available records examining a person's death following an interaction with law enforcement, or while in the custody of law enforcement.

2.2.1.1 The prosecutor, upon receiving an investigation file of a death as described above from any investigating agency, shall immediately forward a copy of the available investigative records to the inquest program, as well as any records subsequently received from the investigating agency. Once available, the prosecutor shall also forward a copy of its own investigation to the inquest program if an inquest hearing has not yet been completed or the panel has not completed its report and recommendations.

2.2.1.2 The medical examiner, upon completion of an autopsy and other investigations of a death as described above, shall provide a copy of its records on the person's death, including any records received by the medical examiner during the course of the investigation and autopsy, to the inquest program.

2.2.1.3 The inquest program shall request available records from the law enforcement agency involved in the person's death, including records on any internal investigation of the incident, applicable policies and procedures, and any other records that might inform the inquest proceeding.

2.2.1.4 The inquest program may gather or request any other relevant records that might assist the inquest proceeding.

2.2.2 After removing any duplicate records, the remaining records gathered or received by the inquest program shall be sequentially numbered and placed into an inquest program investigative file. Any documents or statements that include *Garrity*-protected statements by the involved officer(s) must be redacted and shall not be presented at the inquest. Nothing in this provision precludes the use of compelled statements where the person is not an involved officer and the person's right against self-incrimination is not in jeopardy.

2.2.3 Any constitutional or statutory protections applicable to records supplied to the inquest program, including privacy rights surrounding autopsy photographs, shall remain applicable subject to the necessary use of those records in an inquest hearing or in panel proceedings under section 4.0 of this order.

2.3 CALLING INQUEST HEARINGS

2.3.1 Upon assembling the inquest program investigative file under section 2.2 above, the inquest manager shall assign a potential inquest case to an inquest program attorney and inquest administrator. The inquest program attorney shall evaluate the status of available investigative records, review those records, prepare a written summary of the incident based on those records, and provisionally determine whether an inquest should be called.

2.3.2 If the inquest program investigative file is missing records necessary to make the determinations in section 2.3.1, or records that would be relevant, helpful and necessary to the inquest process, the inquest program attorney, in consultation with the inquest administrator, shall take all reasonable efforts to obtain those records, including seeking a subpoena from the superior court and taking actions to enforce that subpoena. In determining what records to obtain, the inquest program

attorney and inquest administrator shall be guided by the civil rules, including the relevancy standard in CR 26.

- 2.3.3 Following completion of the inquest program attorney's review under section 2.3.1 and reasonable efforts to gather additional records under section 2.3.2, the inquest program shall convene available inquest administrators, inquest program attorneys and the inquest manager to discuss the case and attempt to reach consensus regarding a recommendation to the executive on whether to call the case for an inquest hearing.
- 2.3.3.1 An inquest shall be held to investigate the causes and circumstances of any death where an action, decision or possible failure to offer appropriate care by a member of any law enforcement agency might have contributed to an individual's death. In determining whether to recommend calling a matter for an inquest hearing, the inquest program shall consider whether sufficient facts exist, as a matter of law, to convince a reasonable jury that the decisions, actions or inactions of a member of law enforcement played a significant part in the person's death. An inquest will not be called where the decisions, actions or inactions of a member of law enforcement were *de minimis*, constituting little more than an undistinguished link in a chain of "but for" causation.
- 2.3.3.2 Unless extenuating circumstances exist, an inquest hearing will ordinarily not be called: (1) where a death was the result of (a) natural causes, (b) a traffic accident, (c) an overdose, or (d) a suicide; and (2) sufficient facts do not exist as a matter of law to support a determination by a reasonable jury that the death involved criminal means by a member of law enforcement under any of the criminal culpability standards set forth in RCW 9A.08.010.
- 2.3.3.3 In situations where the recommendation is to forgo calling an inquest, the inquest program may recommend forwarding the matter to the panel for review of law enforcement policies and procedures.
- 2.3.4 The inquest program shall send its written narrative of the incident and recommendation on whether to hold an inquest hearing and/or forward the matter for panel consideration to the executive. The executive shall determine whether an inquest hearing will be held. If an inquest is to be held, the executive shall direct an inquest administrator to conduct the inquest on the executive's behalf. The executive shall also request that the King County Superior Court facilitate the inquest by supplying an inquest jury, a courtroom, appropriate staff, and any necessary security. If

the executive determines not to hold an inquest, the executive will decide whether to forward the matter to the panel for consideration based on the inquest program investigative file.

- 2.3.5 No inquest will be called, nor will an inquest hearing proceed where state or federal criminal charges have been filed against an involved officer regarding the person's death. Where criminal charges have been filed, a copy of the inquest program investigative file shall be immediately delivered to the prosecuting agency. Upon completion of the criminal matter, the certification for probable cause, jury verdict form, and judgment and sentence (if any) shall constitute the inquest determination in the matter. Such a case may be sent to the panel for evaluation prior to conclusion of the criminal matter. Nothing in this section precludes an inquest from proceeding while charges are being contemplated by the prosecutor.
- 2.3.6 At the discretion of the executive, in exceptional circumstances, there may be an inquest into the causes and circumstances of any death in King County.
- 2.3.7 The inquest program shall regularly publish on its website a list of potential inquest cases, the involved law enforcement agency, the date of the person's death, a general summary of the facts, whether an inquest will be called, the anticipated date of the inquest hearing, and the findings of the inquest jury.

3. CONDUCTING INQUESTS

3.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 3.1.1 The inquest is a non-adversarial investigative proceeding where relevant evidence regarding the facts and circumstances of a death will be presented in an objective, fair, unbiased, and neutral manner by the inquest program attorney, acting under the direction of the inquest administrator, for a determination by the inquest jury. The inquest program attorney will strive to follow the evidence where it may lead and present an unvarnished account of the incident to the inquest jury.
- 3.1.2 The inquest administrator, on behalf of the executive, presides as the coroner to ensure an objective, fair, unbiased, and neutral presentation of the evidence. The inquest administrator will direct the presentation of evidence by the inquest program attorney, determine appropriate witnesses, and facilitate the inquest jury's participation in the inquest hearing. The inquest administrator shall determine the scope of the proceeding. It is the executive's intent that inquest administrators exercise independent decision-making authority in conducting inquest proceedings under this executive order. Inquest administrators shall strive to promote

an atmosphere consistent with administrative fact-finding proceedings and shall strive to minimize delay, cost, and burden on witnesses, while promoting fair and open proceedings. At the discretion of the inquest administrator, the Rules of Evidence may apply by analogy consistent with these purposes.

- 3.1.3 The inquest manager shall maintain an audio or video recording of all inquest proceedings. Inquest hearings are open public proceedings. Media shall be granted access to inquest hearings, including the right to record audio, record video, or take photographs. Where technically feasible, inquest hearings shall be streamed for the public. If any questions arise under this section the inquest administrators shall be guided by open courts principles and GR 16.

3.2 SCHEDULING INQUESTS

- 3.2.1 In order to provide timely information to the public and decision makers, it is the goal of the executive to have all potential inquests fully resolved no later than 12 months after a person's death. By the tenth day of every month, the inquest manager shall report to the executive all inquest matters that were resolved in the prior month and the time to resolution. In addition, the inquest manager shall report any inquest cases that remain unresolved within the 12-month timeframe, the reasons for delay in resolution of these cases, and plans to resolve the case.
- 3.2.2 In order to resolve the current backlog of inquest matters and avoid developing a new backlog, the inquest manager will endeavor to schedule two backlogged cases for every newly called inquest until the backlog is resolved.

3.3 PARTIES

The only participants in the inquest are the inquest administrator, the inquest program attorney, and the inquest jury. There are no other parties to the inquest and the inquest administrator shall entertain no motions to intervene.

- 3.3.1 To assist with preparations for the inquest, the inquest program attorney will offer to meet with representatives of the family whose relative died following an interaction with law enforcement, or while in the custody of law enforcement. If requested by the family, an attorney shall be assigned by the inquest program manager for the limited purpose of representing the family during the course of this meeting. Where the decedent was a tribal member, the inquest program attorney will offer to meet with representatives of the person's tribe.

- 3.3.2 To assist with preparations for the inquest, the inquest program attorney will offer to meet with the involved officer and/or representatives of the law enforcement agency that employs or employed the involved officer.

3.4 WITNESSES AND SUBPOENAS

- 3.4.1 In preparing for the inquest hearing, the inquest administrator shall meet with the inquest program attorney to discuss what evidence and testimony should be presented at the inquest hearing to assist the inquest jury in answering the questions presented to it. If additional documentary evidence is relevant to the jury's inquiry, the inquest administrator shall authorize the inquest program attorney to obtain such evidence or testimony, and if necessary, to do so by acquiring a subpoena from the superior court. If necessary to further investigate the case, the inquest administrator may authorize the inquest program attorney to obtain a subpoena duces tecum from the superior court and depose a person with knowledge of the case. Any deposition shall proceed in accord with the Civil Rules.

- 3.4.2 For witnesses whose testimony is appropriate at the inquest hearing, the inquest administrator shall issue subpoenas to those witnesses to appear to give testimony under oath. A witness has a duty to appear at the inquest hearing in response to the inquest subpoena. Any witness subpoena shall indicate the possible penalties for failure to appear. The subpoena shall further indicate that testimony given in an inquest hearing may be used in subsequent civil or criminal proceedings for any purpose. When a witness resides out of state and is unwilling to give in-person testimony, the inquest program attorney shall use all available civil procedures to subpoena the witness and preserve the witness's testimony by deposition for use at the inquest hearing.

- 3.4.2.1 A witness shall not be required to answer questions that may incriminate the witness. However, it is the witness's responsibility to assert any right against self-incrimination in an open hearing on a question-by-question basis. A witness shall be allowed to consult counsel, at the witness's own expense, toward the proper exercise of this right. If the witness asserts the right against self-incrimination, the validity of this asserted right shall be evaluated by the inquest administrator. Whenever a witness properly asserts their constitutional right against self-incrimination during testimony to a question, the inquest jury shall be given an adverse inference instruction in the following form: "The witness has asserted his/her/their right to remain silent in response to the question asked by the inquest program attorney. The jury may draw an inference that any testimony given in response to this question would have been unfavorable to him/her/them."

3.4.2.2 When a witness fails to appear at an inquest despite a valid and properly served subpoena, the inquest jury shall be given an adverse inference instruction in the following form: “[The witness] was obligated by subpoena to appear and give testimony in this matter. [The subpoena specified that the witness would testify on the following general topics . . .] Because the witness has failed to appear in response to the subpoena or give testimony, the jury may draw an inference that any testimony given in response to this question would have been unfavorable to him/her/them.”

3.4.3 Where determined necessary by the inquest administrator and the inquest program attorney, a qualified expert witness may be retained by the inquest program to provide testimony to the inquest jury.

3.5 INQUEST JURY

3.5.1 A jury of six shall be impaneled for each inquest proceeding. The inquest administrator may also impanel alternate jurors as appropriate. The inquest administrator shall determine how jury selection proceeds. Although jurors may be dismissed for cause, including undue hardship, no preemptory challenges shall be permitted.

3.5.2 In all inquest proceedings, the inquest jury shall answer the following questions: (a) the identity of the decedent; (b) when and where the person died; (c) the means by which the person was killed; (d) whether the person died by criminal means; and if so, (e) the name of the person or persons who caused the death. Where determined appropriate in the discretion of the inquest administrator, special interrogatories maybe placed before the jury for its consideration.

3.5.2.1 The inquest jury shall be charged to determine the questions before it by a preponderance of the evidence. The jury need not be unanimous in its verdict but shall indicate the number of jurors persuaded by the propositions under consideration. A juror may answer “yes,” “no” or “unknown.” The final verdict shall be in writing and signed by the jurors.

3.5.2.2 After every question, each juror shall have the opportunity to provide a written explanation of the juror’s answer. The inquest administrator shall direct each juror that the juror need only provide a written explanation when the juror believes that a written explanation would provide information helpful in explaining or interpreting the juror’s answer.

3.5.3 The inquest jury may request that additional witnesses testify at the inquest hearing and submit questions through the inquest administrator for witnesses who testify. The inquest administrator may decide on a

case-by-case basis that the additional witness or requested testimony or evidence is irrelevant or unfairly prejudicial, cumulative or unhelpful to the jury's inquiry under the rules of evidence.

- 3.5.4 The inquest jury may take notes of the testimony placed before it in order to assist with deliberations. These notes shall be collected and destroyed upon entry of the jury's verdict.

3.6 CONDUCT OF HEARING

- 3.6.1 Except in unusual circumstances, the presentation of evidence at an inquest hearing is expected to last two to five days.
- 3.6.2 In a neutral, fair, objective and unbiased manner, the inquest program attorney shall: (a) give an opening statement to the jury previewing the anticipated evidence; and (b) examine witnesses to elicit relevant testimony.
- 3.6.3 The inquest administrator shall: (a) preside over the inquest; (b) swear in the jury and witnesses; (c) determine questions of law and the admissibility of evidence; (d) exercise contempt powers authorized by RCW 36.24.050; (e) instruct the jury; and (f) enter the jury's verdicts.
- 3.6.4 The inquest manager shall ensure that the inquest proceedings are live streamed, audio and video recorded and that the recordings are made accessible to the public to the greatest extent consistent with GR 16.

3.7 POST INQUEST PROCEEDINGS

- 3.7.1 A copy of the inquest jury's verdicts shall be delivered to the executive and the prosecutor. If requested by the prosecutor, the inquest program shall send the prosecutor a copy of the inquest investigative file along with recordings of the inquest hearing.
- 3.7.2 A copy of the inquest jury's verdict, the inquest investigative file and recordings of the hearing shall be prepared for use by the Deadly Incident Review and Recommendation Panel.

4.0 DEADLY INCIDENT REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION PANEL

- 4.1 Within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this executive order, the inquest manager shall establish a Deadly Incident Review and Recommendation Panel within the inquest program. The panel shall review any inquest that occurs after the effective date of this order, or other deaths referred to it under section 2.3.4 of this order.

- 4.2 The panel shall review and make recommendations related to the death of persons who have died following interactions with, or while in the custody of law enforcement in King County to identify whether there was compliance with accepted and best law enforcement practice and whether those practices were sufficient for the particular circumstances or whether the practices require adjustment or improvement. The panel shall recommend methods of improving standards, including changes to statutes, rules, training, policies, procedures and incorporation of best available practices, that are intended to decrease deaths and other adverse outcomes following an interaction with law enforcement, while preserving public safety, officer safety, and in the case of jails, institutional safety.
- 4.3 The panel must, to the extent practicable, include members that reflect the viewpoints and experience of King County's diverse racial, gender, indigenous and tribal communities. The panel will be composed of nine members as follows, who serve on a volunteer basis:
- 4.3.1 A person with experience serving on a state, county or municipal law enforcement accountability agency, commission, or board;
 - 4.3.2 A person whose family member died following an interaction with, or while in the custody of law enforcement;
 - 4.3.3 A person who regularly practices civil rights law under 42 U.S.C §1983 on behalf of plaintiffs challenging law enforcement practices;
 - 4.3.4 A person in a position of leadership with a county or municipal law enforcement agency in King County;
 - 4.3.5 A person with at least 10 years' experience as a patrol officer, or corrections officer, with a county or municipal police agency in King County;
 - 4.3.6 A person who regularly defends law enforcement agencies and employees under 42 U.S.C §1983 against claims of civil rights violations;
 - 4.3.7 A person who is a licensed mental health professional;
 - 4.3.8 A person who is a retired judge; and
 - 4.3.9 An academic with a doctorate or master's level degree who has experience teaching and has published research in the area of law enforcement practices.

To the extent that suitable applicants meeting the above criteria do not apply for appointment to the panel, the executive may expand the criteria to encompass other applicants with analogous experience.

- 4.4 Following an application to serve on the panel, the executive shall appoint panel members to staggered three-year terms. For the first appointments, the positions set forth in sections 4.3.1, 4.3.4 and 4.3.7 shall be appointed to three-year terms, the positions in sections 4.3.2, 4.3.5 and 4.3.8 shall be appointed to two-year terms and the remaining panel members shall be appointed to one-year terms. Upon expiration of these initial terms, all persons on the panel shall serve three-year terms except where a person is appointed to fill an unexpired term.
- 4.5 The panel shall organize initially and annually thereafter by electing a chair and a vice-chair from among its members. The panel shall meet at such time or times as may be reasonably necessary to carry out its duties, but it shall meet at least once per month. Five members shall constitute a quorum. Where possible, the panel shall operate by consensus, but otherwise by majority vote. It may adopt its own bylaws consistent with this order. In any case where a panel member has a conflict of interest, the member shall recuse from consideration of that case.
- 4.6 Panel deliberations.
- 4.6.1 The panel shall have full access to the records in section 3.7.2, including unredacted copies of any statements subject to the *Garrity* doctrine. The inquest program will cause a summary of these records, including a narrative of events based on the evidence presented at the inquest hearing, for the panel's consideration.
- 4.6.2 The inquest program manager, for the panel's consideration, shall invite the submission of written correspondence from the law enforcement agency, the involved officer(s), the family of the deceased person, and the executive authority (Mayor or City Manager) of any jurisdiction involved in the person's death commenting on the inquest findings and/or the issues before the panel set forth in section 2.2.
- 4.6.3 The inquest manager or designee shall attend panel meetings and assist the panel with preparation of a written report and recommendations addressing the issues in section 4.2.
- 4.6.4 A copy of the panel's report and recommendations shall be made available to the public on the website of the inquest program. Copies of the report shall also be provided to the law enforcement agency, the involved officer(s), the family of the deceased person, and the executive authority (Mayor or City Manager) of any jurisdiction involved in the person's death.
- 4.7 The panel's report and recommendations are advisory and persuasive, but have no binding effect. To encourage frank and open discussion, the panel may deliberate its findings and recommendations in private. The deliberations of the panel are not public proceedings, nor do they constitute open public meetings.

- 4.8 With the assistance of the inquest program, the panel shall complete an annual report by no later than February 1 of each year summarizing the panel's activities, conclusions and recommendations for the prior calendar year. The panel may also make additional recommendations as appropriate. Copies of the annual report shall be made available to the public on the website of the inquest program. In addition, copies of the annual report shall be provided to the executive, the King County Council, the King County Office of Law Enforcement Oversight, the King County Sheriff, and the executive authority (Mayor or City Manager) of every jurisdiction within King County.