

CLEARANCES		Initial	Date	Date Received in Council Office	Agenda Date	Assigned to:
Originator:		PK		RECEIVED OCT 07 1998 WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL	10/13/98	Introduction
Division Head:					10/27/98	Hearing
Dept. Head:						
Prosecutor						
Purchasing/Budget:						
Executive:						

SUBJECT:

Ordinance establishing a Domestic Violence Commission

ATTACHMENTS:

*Ordinance
Cover letter*

Related County Contract #:

Should Clerk schedule a hearing: NO / / YES / / Requested Date:

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The purpose of this ordinance is to form a Domestic Violence Commission whose purpose is to provide leadership in the community's effort to reduce and prevent domestic violence.

This is a coordinated effort by Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham that is the direct result of a Domestic Violence Summit held last March.

Distribution Request

Indicate those who should receive a copy after Council action. List specific names to the right.

ADS Facilities Management	
ADS Finance	
ADS Human Resources	
ADS Info Services	
Assessor	
Auditor	
Cooperative Extension	
District Court	
Executive	
Health	
Hearing Examiner	
Jail	
Juvenile	
Parks	
Planning	
Prosecutor	
Public Works	
Sheriff	
Superior Court	
Treasurer	
Other	

COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN:

1998 - 366 10/13/98: Introduced
10/27/98: Amended and Adopted 6-0, Brown Absent - Ord. #98-072

Ordinance or Resolution Number (this item):

ORD. # 98-072

INTRODUCED BY: Pete Kremen
PROPOSED BY: Pete Kremen
DATE: October 13, 1998

ORDINANCE NO. 98-072

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE BELLINGHAM-WHATCOM COUNTY COMMISSION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ADOPTING CHAPTER _____ OF THE WHATCOM COUNTY CODE.

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious problem within Bellingham and Whatcom County affecting all social, economic and ethnic groups; and

WHEREAS, current efforts to address the problem could benefit from the coordination and cooperation needed to achieve maximum impact; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach should be implemented county-wide to significantly reduce the incidence of domestic violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A new chapter of the Whatcom County Code is adopted to read as follows:

_____ Bellingham-Whatcom County Commission Against Domestic Violence.

_____ .010 Created.

The Bellingham-Whatcom County Commission Against Domestic Violence is created.

_____ .020 Purpose.

1 The purpose of the Commission is to provide leadership in the
2 community's effort to reduce and prevent domestic violence.

3 _____ .030 Functions.
4

5
6 The functions of the Commission shall be:

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8 1. Develop and implement a coordinated comprehensive
9 domestic violence plan that is monitored, evaluated and updated on a
10 regular basis.
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13 2. Promote coordination and increase collaboration of
14 institutions, systems and services as they respond to offenders,
15 victims, children and others who have been impacted by domestic
16 violence.
17

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19 3. Increase community awareness and understanding about
20 domestic violence.
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23 4. Serve as an advisory board to local government
24 agencies and the community with respect to domestic violence issues.
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27 5. Develop community benchmarks for monitoring domestic
28 violence and prepare an annual report.
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6. Serve as a community forum on domestic violence and create a mechanism for identifying issues, concerns, needs and resources.

_____ .040 Composition.

The Commission shall consist of up to 27 members. The following officials shall be designated government representatives on the Commission:

1. Whatcom County Prosecutor
2. Whatcom County Sheriff
3. Bellingham Police Chief
4. Bellingham City Attorney
5. Bellingham Municipal Court Administrator
6. Whatcom County Superior Court Administrator
7. Whatcom County Director of Health & Human Services
8. Whatcom County Public Defender
9. Whatcom County Director of District Court Probation
10. A designated representative of DSHS/DCFS
11. One chief executive officer from the cities in Whatcom County other than Bellingham selected by a majority vote of the eligible chief executive officers
12. One Police Chief from the cities in Whatcom County other than Bellingham selected by majority vote of the eligible police chiefs.
13. One Superintendent from the school districts in Whatcom County selected by majority vote of the eligible superintendents.

Additional members shall be selected by the Mayor and the County Executive from among members of the community who have an interest in, or are impacted by, domestic violence. The Mayor and County Executive shall each appoint seven members to include the following:

1. One domestic violence victims service provider.
2. Two human services providers, including, but not limited to, educators, victim or offender services,

clergy or religious leaders and early childhood education providers.

3. One representative of a major employer.
4. One health care provider.
5. Two representatives from the community at large.

The County Executive appointment shall be subject to confirmation by a majority of the County Council as per Whatcom County Charter 3.23.

In selecting members of the Commission the Mayor and County Executive shall attempt to reflect the racial, ethnic, economic and geographical diversity of the community and to insure the participation of at least one survivor of domestic violence.

Terms of the non-government members, and of those government members selected by majority vote of designated groups, shall be four years; provided that the terms of those non-government members first appointed shall be staggered so that two members shall be appointed for one year, four members shall be appointed for two years, four members shall be appointed for three years and four members shall be appointed for four years. Members may be reappointed. Members may be removed by the appointing authority. Each member shall continue to serve until a successor has been appointed.

_____.050. Organization - Meetings.

Meetings of the Commission shall be open and accessible to the public. The Commission shall determine its own meeting schedule but shall meet at least once each quarter. Written records of meetings,

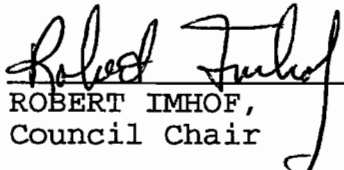
1 resolutions, findings and recommendations shall be kept and such
2 records shall be public. The Commission shall adopt its own rules and
3 procedures which shall be public record. The City and County shall
4 provide funding for the Commission as the City and County deem
5 necessary for the Commission to perform its duties. The Commission
6 shall elect a chairperson from among its members who shall preside at
7 its meetings.
8
9

10 Section 2. Effective Date


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12 This ordinance shall be effective November 1, 1998 provided
13 that both the City and Whatcom County have adopted the provisions
14 contained herein prior to October 15, 1998.
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17 ADOPTED this 27 day of October, 1998.

18
19 WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
20 WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

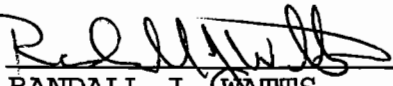
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22 
23 ROBERT IMHOF,
24 Council Chair

25 ATTEST:

26 
27 DANA BROWN-DAVIS
28 Clerk of the Council

29 (X) APPROVED () VETOED

30 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

31
32 
33 RANDALL J. WATTS
34 Chief Civil Deputy
Prosecuting Attorney

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36 
37 PETE KREMEN
38 Executive

39 DATE: 10-30-98