



**WHATCOM COUNTY
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2012-03**

**CRITERIA FOR ADDITION OF NAMES TO
WHATCOM COUNTY MEMORIAL WALL**

WHEREAS, Whatcom County is grateful for the opportunity to support Veterans who have served their country with honor;

And WHEREAS the Whatcom County Memorial Wall provides a location for the dedication and remembrance of veterans who make the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives for their country;

And WHEREAS the Whatcom County Executive desires to provide formal criteria for names that are listed on the Memorial Wall based on military personnel who were either born in Whatcom County, resided here or enlisted in the US Armed Forces here and who were killed in action.

And WHEREAS an individual is considered killed in action when their death was caused by enemy action, they died of wounds sustained by enemy action, death occurred while a prisoner of war, or became and remain missing in action any military conflict in which the United States is involved;

And WHEREAS Department of Defense Instruction 7730.63, "Reports on Active Duty Military Personnel Casualties, in Official Combat Areas and in Noncombat Areas" provided that the casualties to be reported as battle deaths were all those occurring within the designated combat areas and those deaths occurring anywhere as the direct result or aftermath of an initial injury occurring in a combat zone.

And WHEREAS in September 1985, DoD expanded the definition of "combat casualty," to include "any deaths which occurred as a result of aircraft accidents enroute to or returning from a direct combat mission to bomb, strafe, or perform surveillance of targets within the defined combat area."

NOW, THEREFORE, By virtue of the power vested in me by the Whatcom County Home Rule Charter, I hereby declare that Whatcom County government will follow the criteria noted above when considering the addition of names to the Whatcom County Memorial Wall.

DATED this 4th day of October, 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Louws".

Jack Louws, Whatcom County Executive