

TO: Public Health and Safety Committee
FROM: Troy Niemeyer, Finance Director
DATE: October 10, 2023
SUBJECT: Public Defense Update

1) Recommended Action:

None.

2) Background:

The City outsourced its municipal court in 2013. It entered into a contract with the Thurston County Office of Assigned Council, now known as Thurston County Public Defense (TCPD), for legal representation services for indigent persons charged with criminal offenses by the City of Tumwater.

The service scope includes representation for each defendant from arraignment through trial, sentencing, post-trial review and any appeals. The TCPD assures that professional staff are available for interviewing and/or counseling individuals and defendants held in custody as needed on a 24-hour basis, and that defendants held in custody pending trial are interviewed in a timely manner in accordance with established professional standards.

TCPD staff will present an overview of their work.

3) Policy Support:

Provide and Sustain Quality Public Safety Services

- Pursue data-driven crime analysis/proactive enforcement.
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4) Alternatives:

☐ None

5) Fiscal Notes:

None, this is only a presentation.

6) Attachments:

A. None