



SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

The Squaxin Island Tribe recently acquired property within the City of Tumwater's limits located at 7249 & 7233 Old Hwy 99 SW, now held in trust for the benefit of the Tribe by United States of America. The City and the Tribe are party to a Letter of Understanding dated April 4, 2023, under which the City agreed to provide certain emergency services to the Tribal land and the Tribe agreed to make periodic contributions towards the cost of services. One of the key services identified is law enforcement.

In order for the City to exercise law enforcement jurisdiction on Tribal land and to clarify procedural issues related to providing those services, the Parties wish to identify their expectations regarding law enforcement in advance. Therefore,

1. Pursuant to RCW 10.93.070, the Tribe's Chief of Police authorizes any City of Tumwater general authority Washington peace officer who possesses a certificate of basic law enforcement training or a certificate of equivalency or has been exempted from the requirement therefor by the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission may enforce the traffic or criminal laws of this state on this Tribal land;
2. The Tribe requests the City respond to any request for assistance in order to determine if a criminal incident has occurred on or involving the Tribal land in accordance with the City's normal policies and procedures;
3. The City will make best efforts to provide investigatory reports of any incident involving the Tribal land to the Tribe within one business day following the completion of the report;
4. In the event the City established probable cause to arrest a known Squaxin Tribal member, the City will confer with the Squaxin Island Police Department to determine whether a referral to Tribal prosecution is appropriate;
5. Nothing in this Letter of Understanding shall be construed to cede the jurisdiction or authority of either party, to modify the legal requirements for arrest or search and seizure or to otherwise modify the legal rights of any person, to accomplish any act violative of city, state, federal or tribal law or to subject the parties to any liability to which they would not be subject by law.

The City and Tribal Police Departments will communicate regularly to make sure that contact information is current and any unforeseen issues are promptly addressed in an amendment to this Letter of Understanding.

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