February 9, 2023

Chief Civil Service Examiner Wayne Jones

Dear Mr. Jones:

This letter is to officially ask that the Thurston County Civil Service Board change part of the current drug use standards in the hiring rules. As you know, several years ago Washington state voters approved the use of recreational marijuana. Now, like alcohol, anyone over the age of 21 may consume alcohol and/or marijuana.

Many law enforcement agencies across the state have changed their hiring standards as it relates to marijuana use since the inception of the law. We are finding that we are losing otherwise qualified applicants due to our stricter standards on marijuana use.

We would like to propose the following changes:

Commissioned

Deputy Sheriffs
Corrections Deputy

No marijuana use in the last 6 months

Non-commissioned

Legal Assistant Crime Analyst Systems Administrator Corrections Technician ETC... No marijuana use since date of employment application

Please reach out to me if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dave Pearsall Undersheriff

