

# THURSTON COUNTY SHERIFF

SHERIFF DEREK SANDERS



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May 30, 2023

Chief Civil Service Examiner Wayne Jones  
Thurston County Civil Service  
3000 Pacific Avenue SE  
Olympia WA 98501

Dear Mr. Jones:

This letter is to officially ask that the Thurston County Civil Service Board change the minimum age requirement from twenty-one (21) years of age to eighteen (18) years of age for the **Corrections Deputy** and **Legal Assistant** classifications.

Other law enforcement agencies across the state are using the younger age for their hiring standards as well. Lowering the age requirement should give us wider applicant pool to choose from. We are finding that we are losing otherwise qualified applicants due to our 21 years of age standard. State law requires that fully commissioned deputy sheriffs be 21, this does not however, apply to correction deputies.

Thank you for your consideration, please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dave Pearsall  
Undersheriff

DP/kk

cc: Sheriff Derek Sanders  
Chief Carla Carter, Support Services Bureau  
Chief Trevor Davis, Corrections Bureau  
Chief Ruben, Mancillas, Field Operations Bureau  
Chief Heidi Thomsen, Financial Operations Bureau



"OUT OF MANY, WE ARE ONE"