

THURSTON COUNTY SHERIFF

SHERIFF DEREK SANDERS



2000 LAKERIDGE DR SW • OLYMPIA, WA 98502 • 360-786-5500

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 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 Sheriff
Corrections Deputy

No marijuana use since date of employment application

Non-commissioned

Legal Assistant
Crime Analyst
Systems Administrator
Corrections Technician
Etc.

No marijuana use since date of employment application



"OUT OF MANY, WE ARE ONE"

Chief Civil Service Examiner Wayne Jones

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Pearsall", with a stylized, flowing script.

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