## Skagit-Island Multiple Agency Response Team

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To Our Skagit and Island Communities,

The Washington State Legislature enacted WAC 139-12-030 in 2019 that established requirements for how agencies conduct independent investigation's involving police deadly force use. The intent was to enhance public trust and investigation integrity by providing independence, transparency, communication, a credible process, and credible investigators performing that process.

The citizen work group constructing the original law proposed an additional change requiring Independent Investigation Teams to remain totally separate from the involved agency. This means no investigative information is shared with the involved agency before the case is filed with the prosecutor. The Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission Board approved this modification, and it took effect January 22, 2022. The public and involved agency now receive information and updates at the same time.

We recognize this could be confusing and even appear the involved agency or S.M.A.R.T. is not being transparent to questions asked. This is not the intent nor inference that should be taken. Access, authority to release information and varied timelines will naturally create contrasting abilities to respond to public inquiry and shouldn't be reasons for judging the case merits.

Skagit-Island Multiple Agency Response Team is committed to a credible process that complies with Washington State law. Involved agencies will not have access to S.M.A.R.T.'s investigation progress until it is complete. Any information provided by the involved agency will come from sources separate from our investigation.

Executive Board
Skagit-Island Multiple Agency Response Team

<u>Dave Floyd</u> Chief Dave Floyd Anacortes Police

<u>Líw Tucker</u> Chief Lin Tucker Sedro Woolley Police <u>Míchael Luvera</u> Chief Michael Luvera Burlington Police

<u>Dow McDermott</u> Sheriff Don McDermott Skagit County Sheriff <u>Chris Cammock</u> Chief Chris Cammock Mount Vernon Police

<u>Ríck Felici</u> Sheriff Rick Felici Island County Sheriff <u>Kevíw Dresker</u> Chief Kevin Dresker Oak Harbor Police

<u>Jason Knott</u> Captain Jason Knott Washington State Patrol