



Media alert

For immediate release – Monday, March 29, 2004

Aaron Reardon
County Executive

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Reardon to launch Executive Law & Justice Task Force on Tuesday

Who: Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon
What: The inaugural meeting of the Executive Law & Justice Task Force
When: Tuesday, March 30, 2004
3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Where: **City of Everett**
8th Floor Public Conference Room
2930 Wall Street
Everett, WA

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon will convene his Executive Law & Justice Task Force for the first time Tuesday. More than 40 mayors, police chiefs, city council members, judges, city administrators and others from across Snohomish County have indicated they will attend the inaugural session.

Reardon wants to explore how the County and its cities can reduce the soaring price tag of law enforcement and create a more efficient criminal justice system through regional cooperation.

The meeting is open to the public.

“The County has a forum for discussing law and justice issues with our other County partners – the Sheriff, the Prosecutor, the Courts, Public Defense and Corrections,” Reardon said. “Now we want to open up a dialogue with our other partners in the cities. We want to talk about the increasing cost of law enforcement, lower revenues, unfunded mandates from the state, contracting and partnering opportunities.”

Reardon noted that law and justice expenses represent nearly 70 percent of Snohomish County's 2004 general fund budget, a sharp increase from 10 years ago in 1995 when it was 56 percent.

In addition to representatives from Reardon's office, officials from the District Court, the Prosecutor's Office, the Sheriff's Office, Corrections and the Office of Public Defenders have been invited to meet with city counterparts.

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For additional information, please contact:

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