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Reardon appoints Strannigan to Performance Audit Committee

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*Former lawmaker crafted key legislation aimed at improving
the performance and accountability of state agencies*

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon today appointed Gary Strannigan to serve on the County's Performance Audit Committee.

When Strannigan served in the Washington State Senate in the late 1990s, the Everett Republican worked with internationally recognized management specialist Peter Drucker to develop landmark performance and accountability legislation that informs state agencies to this day.

"I am appointing Gary Strannigan to Snohomish County's Performance Audit Committee because I respect the work he did on state performance and accountability issues," Reardon said. "I said in my inaugural speech that accountability would be more than a slogan in my administration – it will be our credo.

"We're sending a crystal clear message by nominating a person with Gary's proven talents that accountability remains at the top of our list."

Strannigan is currently government relations manager for Safeco Insurance Co., representing the firm with the Washington State Legislature and the Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner.

"I'm looking forward to joining this committee and rolling up my sleeves," Strannigan said today. "The committee is here to help build public trust and to ensure the highest quality performance. Aaron and I may come from different political parties, but when it comes to issues of performance and audit, we are in absolute agreement."

The Performance Audit Committee is made up of eight members, consisting of Snohomish County Auditor Bob Terwilliger and seven appointees. Of those seven, two are appointed by the Executive and five are appointed by members of the Snohomish County Council. The arrangement guarantees that each Council district is represented by at least one committee member.

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The tasks performed by the Snohomish County Performance Audit Committee include:

- Advising on the development of an annual audit plan;
- Assisting in the selection of external auditors or other experts where it may be necessary to carry out the annual audit plan;
- Reviewing the audit process to provide input on improvements and changes in process and procedures used in carrying out the annual audit plan;
- Providing input to the auditor on the annual budget; and,
- Reviewing final audit reports to ensure procedures for issuance of the report have been followed.

In addition to nominating Strannigan for the committee, Reardon said he is appointing Marlies Egberding to a second three-year term. The Executive thanked outgoing committee member Ed Huebner for his service to the County during his tenure on the audit panel.

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