



Snohomish County
County Executive's Office

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Aaron Reardon
County Executive

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Fitzpatrick to join Reardon administration as Executive Director

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*He leaves Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office
to serve as senior policy advisor*

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon announced today he is hiring one of the County's top civil attorneys as a senior policy advisor.

Thomas Fitzpatrick will assume new responsibilities as an Executive Director, including oversight of the County's planning and development services, economic development initiatives, Paine Field and other areas of government. He will also be the County's representative in the 2005 round of the federal Base Realignment and Closure Commission, which is scheduled to review the status of military installations across the nation this year.

For the past five years Fitzpatrick has been the assistant chief of the civil division in the Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office. He directed the unit responsible for damage claims and civil litigation. In the addition, Fitzpatrick managed attorneys who gave County departments advice on risk management issues, employment questions and tribal law issues.

Executive Reardon said Fitzpatrick will bring key skills to his new position.

"We accomplished much in our first year and laid solid plans for the future," Reardon said. "Tom brings to the table the proven ability to implement complex plans and

manage complex issues. He's self directed, action oriented and won't need any 'on the job' training.

"We have an aggressive agenda for the future and Tom's high level management and legal experience will ensure that we accomplish the goals we set. He's a seamless fit to the team and he'll help us succeed at the next level."

Regarding his new position, Fitzpatrick said: "I am deeply appreciative to Aaron Reardon for giving me this opportunity to serve the people of Snohomish County. I am very excited to be on his team and help him with his agenda to make Snohomish County an ever better place to live, work, and raise a family."

Before Fitzpatrick came to Snohomish County in 1999, he was in the private practice of law for twenty two years. He was a partner in the Seattle-based Stafford Frey Cooper law firm, where he also served as managing partner. Before that he was a shareholder at Karr Tuttle Campbell, also in Seattle.

Fitzpatrick has also been active in both the American Bar Association (ABA) and the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA). He has served on the ABA's Board of Governors representing Washington, Oregon, Montana, and Alaska and has served as a WSBA representative to the ABA's House of Delegates.

He is a past president of the WSBA's Young Lawyers Division.

In 2004, Fitzpatrick was honored as a "Super Lawyer" by the publication *Washington Law and Politics*.

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