



Snohomish County
Office of the Executive
Aaron Reardon
County Executive

Media Advisory – March 10, 2008

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Reardon to sign inclusion manager ordinance

What: Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon will sign into law the county's inclusion manager ordinance.

Where: Executive Office Board Room, 6th Floor, Administration Building West, 3000 Rockefeller Ave.

When: 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 11.

Background: The Snohomish County Council approved the inclusion manager position Feb. 27, following more than a year's debate at the council level on the merits of the position.

County Executive Reardon requested the position in 2006.

The role of the inclusion manager will be to strategically focus the county's actions to ensure that everyone who lives in Snohomish County has fair access to services and that they have an equal opportunity to contribute to the county's services as employees or volunteers.

Today, people of color make up more than 20 percent of Snohomish County's population, yet that percentage within Snohomish County government is less than 10 percent.

More than 95 percent of Fortune 500 companies have diversity and inclusion initiatives or have developed custom programs to improve productivity and competitiveness.

Research has shown that diversified candidates will eliminate companies from consideration if they lack ethnic or gender diversity.

Equally, organizations that fail to demonstrate a commitment to diversity in upper management have been shown to lose a significant number of their diversity hires to organizations with more obvious advancement opportunities.

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