
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5004

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senate Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Angel and Rolfes)

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing the position and authority of
2 warrant officers; amending RCW 35.20.270; adding a new section to
3 chapter 35.21 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 35A.21 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 35.21
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Any city or town may establish the position of warrant
8 officer.

9 (2) If any city or town establishes the position of warrant
10 officer, the position shall be maintained by the city or town within
11 the city or town police department. The number and qualifications of
12 warrant officers shall be fixed by ordinance and their compensation
13 shall be paid by the city or town. The chief of police of the city or
14 town must establish training requirements consistent with the job
15 description of warrant officer established in that city or town.

16 (3) Warrant officers shall be vested only with the special
17 authority identified in ordinance, which may include the authority to
18 make arrests authorized by warrants and other authority related to
19 service of civil and criminal process.

1 (4) Process issuing from any court that is directed to a police
2 department in which a warrant officer position is maintained may be
3 served or enforced by the warrant officer.

4 (5) Warrant officers shall not be entitled to death, disability,
5 or retirement benefits pursuant to chapter 41.26 RCW on the basis of
6 service as a warrant officer as described in this section.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 35A.21
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 (1) Any code city may establish the position of warrant officer.

10 (2) If any code city establishes the position of warrant officer,
11 the position shall be maintained by the city within the city police
12 department. The number and qualifications of warrant officers shall
13 be fixed by ordinance, and their compensation shall be paid by the
14 city. The chief of police of the city must establish training
15 requirements consistent with the job description of warrant officer
16 established in that city.

17 (3) Warrant officers shall be vested only with the special
18 authority identified in ordinance, which may include the authority to
19 make arrests authorized by warrants and other authority related to
20 service of civil and criminal process.

21 (4) Process issuing from any court that is directed to a police
22 department in which a warrant officer position is maintained may be
23 served or enforced by the warrant officer.

24 (5) Warrant officers shall not be entitled to death, disability,
25 or retirement benefits pursuant to chapter 41.26 RCW on the basis of
26 service as a warrant officer as described in this section.

27 **Sec. 3.** RCW 35.20.270 and 1992 c 99 s 1 are each amended to read
28 as follows:

29 ~~(1) ((The position of warrant officer is hereby created and shall
30 be maintained by the city within the city police department. The
31 number and qualifications of warrant officers shall be fixed by
32 ordinance, and their compensation shall be paid by the city.~~

33 ~~(2) Warrant officers shall be vested only with the special
34 authority to make arrests authorized by warrants and other arrests as
35 are authorized by ordinance.~~

36 ~~(3))~~ All criminal and civil process issuing out of courts
37 created under this title shall be directed to the chief of police of
38 the city served by the court and/or to the sheriff of the county in

1 which the court is held and/or the warrant officers and be by them
2 executed according to law in any county of this state.

3 ~~((4))~~ (2) No process of courts created under this title shall
4 be executed outside the corporate limits of the city served by the
5 court unless the person authorized by the process first contacts the
6 applicable law enforcement agency in whose jurisdiction the process
7 is to be served.

8 ~~((5))~~ (3) Upon a defendant being arrested in another city or
9 county the cost of arresting or serving process thereon shall be
10 borne by the court issuing the process including the cost of
11 returning the defendant from any county of the state to the city.

12 ~~((6) Warrant officers shall not be entitled to death,
13 disability, or retirement benefits pursuant to chapter 41.26 RCW on
14 the basis of service as a warrant officer as described in this
15 section.))~~

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