WASHINGTON COURTS

June 26, 2015

TO: JISC Data Dissemination Committee

FROM: Stephanie Happold, AOC Data Dissemination Administrator

RE: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Financial Data Requests

Issue

Can the Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) release financial information to Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife?

Background and Recommendation

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) submitted two requests to AOC for financial data. One is for data related to the Criminal Wildlife Penalty Assessment and the other is for data related to Title 77 RCW violations. The AOC is not authorized to release financial data from the AOC Data Warehouse; therefore, the request is being brought before the Data Dissemination Committee (DDC) to review.

The JIS Committee (JISC) authorized the DDC to act on its behalf in reviewing and acting on requests for JIS access by non-court users.[1] The DD Policy sets forth criteria which this Committee may use in deciding these requests:

- The extent to which access will result in efficiencies in the operation of a court or courts.
- The extent to which access will enable the fulfillment of a legislative mandate.
- The extent to which access will result in efficiencies in other parts of the criminal justice system.
- The risks created by permitting such access.[2]

During the past year, the Committee granted several requests for financial data housed in the AOC Data Warehouse. AOC staff recommends approval of DFW's request with similar conditions that were required for the ACLU request. DFW staff should meet with AOC personnel to ensure there is an understanding of the data requested and what can reliably be provided. Also, the reports should be reviewed by a person delegated by this Committee. Last, the cost recovery fees should be applied and include the time spent meeting with the AOC staff to understand the desired data.

[1] JISC Bylaws, Article 7, Secs. 1 and 2.
[2] DD Policy, Sec. IX.C.