



## **SHB 2567 Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Q: Who is responsible for reporting to the Administrative Office of the Courts under SHB 2567 Sec. 4(1)?**

A: The government entity responsible for security of the courthouse is responsible for collecting the name of the state or federal law enforcement officer, agency, date, time, specific law enforcement purpose, and the proposed law enforcement action to be taken by all on-duty state and federal law enforcement officers entering court facilities, and submitting this information on a monthly basis using the Court Reporting Form created by the Administrative Office of the Courts. See, <https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.courts.wa.gov%2Fnewsinfo%2Fcontent%2Fexcel%2FOpen%2520Courts%2520Reporting%2520Form.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK> For example, if your sheriff's office is responsible for securing your courthouse, then your sheriff's office would be responsible for submitting the monthly report.

### **Q: Which law enforcement officers are included in the reporting requirement of SHB 2567?**

A: Section 4(1) requires that government entities responsible for security of the courthouse must report all on-duty state and federal law enforcement officers, unless such officer's purpose is to participate in a case or proceeding before the court.

Only enforcement (or attempted enforcement) of a civil order needs to be recorded. For example, a Washington State Patrol Trooper delivering a sealed warrant to the Clerk's Office would not fit the reporting requirement.

### **Q: Which law enforcement officers are not included in the reporting requirement of SHB 2567?**

Law enforcement officers belonging to an agency, department, or division of a municipal corporation, political subdivision, or other unit of local government of this state do not trigger the reporting requirement. Court staff, such as court bailiffs, are also not included in the reporting requirement.

Also, in speaking with the prime sponsor of this legislation, her intent was not to include officers not typically involved in civil actions, such as: Fish and Wildlife officers and officers from the Department of Corrections.

### **Q: Do I have to report criminal arrests?**

A: No, the bill only mandates the reporting of civil arrests.

### **Q: Do I have to report the presence of law enforcement officers who did not take any action?**

A: Yes, we would recommend that you submit a report for state and federal law enforcement officers who intended to take civil enforcement action even if no action was taken.

**Q: Does a monthly report need to be submitted if there are no law enforcement officers present in the building for the purpose of civil enforcement?**

A: No, a monthly report does not need to be submitted if there were no officers present in the building for the purpose of civil enforcement.

**Q: Does this bill refer to ALL civil order enforcement? For example, Domestic Violence Protection Orders, Extreme Risk Protection Orders, etc.**

A: Yes, as the bill refers to all civil order enforcement conducted by state or federal law enforcement officers. Officers from a local police department or sheriff's office who enforce the above civil orders need not be reported.

**Q: What about courts that share a facility with a jail?**

A: If your courthouse shares the facility with a jail, you do not need to report the total number of law enforcement officers in your building on a day-to-day basis, or the casual usage of shared doors, hallways, or common spaces. You should only report state and federal law enforcement officers who come into the courthouse with the purpose of taking some type of civil action.

**Q: Would having a sign-in sheet be a sufficient way of tracking when a state or federal law enforcement officer is in the court?**

A: Yes, the prime sponsor has advised that a sign-in sheet will suffice as a method of tracking when state and federal law enforcement officers are in your courthouse, but there are notification requirements in Section 5(3) that need to be met if the state or federal officer is intending on making an arrest on a civil order.

**Q: Where should the monthly reports be submitted?**

A: Reports should be emailed to [civilarrests@courts.wa.gov](mailto:civilarrests@courts.wa.gov) at the end of every monthly reporting period. Reports are collated quarterly and are available here: <https://www.courts.wa.gov/newsinfo/index.cfm?fa=newsinfo.qrtlyReports>.

**Q: Is the prime sponsor planning to revisit SHB 2567?**

A: No, the prime sponsor has no plans for a trailer bill at this time but is open to fixing any technical ambiguities.

For additional information, please contact Brittany Gregory, Associate Director, Office of Judicial and Legislative Relations at [brittany.grgeory@courts.wa.gov](mailto:brittany.grgeory@courts.wa.gov).

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