

# **ATTACHMENT A**

Honorable James L. Robart

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	No. 2:12-cv-01282-JLR
	)	
vs.	)	COMMUNITY POLICE COMMISSION'S
	)	BRIEF REGARDING THE CITY OF
CITY OF SEATTLE,	)	SEATTLE'S ACCOUNTABILITY
	)	ORDINANCE
Defendant.	)	
	)	
	)	

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

The Community Police Commission (CPC) supports the City of Seattle's Accountability Ordinance,<sup>1</sup> passed by the Seattle City Council on May 22, 2017 and signed by the Mayor on June 1, 2017.

The CPC respectfully requests that the Court issue an order holding that nothing in the ordinance is inconsistent with the consent decree. The ordinance is a major improvement in

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<sup>1</sup> Ordinance 125315, an ordinance relating to civilian and community oversight of the police; adding a new Chapter 3.29 to the Seattle Municipal Code (SMC); recodifying Subchapters VII, VIII, and IX of Chapter 3.28 of the SMC as Subchapters I, II, and III of Chapter 3.29; amending or repealing sections in Chapter 3.28, 4.08, and 14.12 of the SMC; and concerning Ordinance 118482.

1 Seattle’s accountability system and passes the “three levels of scrutiny” identified by the Court<sup>2</sup> in  
2 that it moves the City toward policing (1) that complies with the Constitution; (2) that allows police  
3 to be effective; and (3) that the people of the community can have confidence in.

4 The CPC asks that the Court enter an order opening the door to full implementation as soon  
5 as possible.<sup>3</sup> The current accountability system—preordinance—is under significant stress. The  
6 OPA auditor position has been filled by an interim officeholder with a limited mandate since last  
7 October. The OPA director has recently announced his resignation. And the OPA Review Board  
8 has all but ceased to exist. The City is taking preparatory steps to fill the OPA Director, Inspector  
9 General, and new CPC positions. For these reasons, there is an urgency associated with  
10 implementation of the ordinance.

11 **II. CONCLUSION**

12 The success of reform is never guaranteed, but this ordinance is an opportunity to create  
13 lasting, positive change. The Community Police Commission, therefore, respectfully asks the  
14 Court to adopt the recommendations of the Commission as stated herein.

15 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017

16  
17 By: /s/Harriett Walden  
18 Rev. Harriett Walden, Co-Chair  
Community Police Commission

/s/Isaac Ruiz  
Isaac Ruiz, Co-Chair  
Community Police Commission

19 /s/Enrique Gonzalez  
20 Enrique Gonzalez, Co-Chair  
Community Police Commission

21 DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July 2017.  
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23 <sup>2</sup> Aug. 25, 2015 Hr’g Tr. at 12:9-20, 32:22-33:5.

<sup>3</sup> Some aspects of the ordinance are affected by collective bargaining.