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From: "Huff, Sherril" <Sherril.Huff@METROK.C.GOV>

Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 1:39 PM

Subject: Announcement

Since joining King County Records, Elections and Licensing Services 12 years ago, Garth Fell has developed a reputation in King County and across Washington as a problem solver, innovator and seasoned elections professional. In the years since 2004 Garth has dedicated himself to becoming the leader, change agent and elections professional who has been a central figure in the "turn around" of King County Elections. In his quiet, sincere and respectful manner Garth has worn the mantle of leadership in such a way as to earn the trust and confidence of the many people who have worked with him in his role as a manager of ballot processing for KCE. Elections staff, partisan observers, Canvass Board members, media representative and those who have been candidates or supporters of ballot issues have all have come to understand that Garth is a man who approaches his work and his associations from a place of integrity.

I wish very much that this was going to be an announcement that Garth has accepted the position of Superintendent of Elections for King County, which has been my hope for many weeks, however, our colleagues to the north have been recruiting Garth as well. Therefore, it is with a mixture of emotions that I must announce that Garth Fell has accepted a position with Snohomish County as Elections and Voter Registration Manager. As a resident of Edmonds, the opportunity to grow professionally and be closer to his family and home made the Snohomish County position very appealing. Garth's last day will be Friday, October 5th.

Garth has left a significant imprint on the REALS organization, most especially in the past three years. With the introduction of quality standards to KCE Garth implemented new Six Sigma standards to mail ballot processing and introduced an observer management program to encourage openness and transparency among the media, observers and stakeholders. He will be greatly missed for his natural leadership, good sense of humor, and calm, and thoughtful way of problem solving (most likely by drawing issues out on a white board).

Garth has developed a strong team in Ballot Processing and Delivery by nurturing his section through change and implementing professional standards of conduct, planning and operations. He has built a team of methodical, confident, and detail-oriented elections professionals who are capable of carrying forward his legacy and values.

In days to come, program managers, mail ballot processing staff, Garth and I will be working on a transition plan to ensure a stable transition and prioritize our short term and long term goals. I will appoint an acting program manager for Ballot Processing and Delivery but have complete faith in the expertise and ability of the veteran staff at the Temporary Elections Annex.

I know this is an unwelcome announcement, I wish it was of a different nature, however, I also have immense pride in Garth for his achievement and the admirable path he has followed to come to this success.

Please join me in congratulating Garth on his new position with Snohomish County.

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