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**WASHINGTON STATE  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC DEFENSE**

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**TO:** County Officials

**FROM:** Joanne Moore, Director

**DATE:** October 8, 2020

**RE:** **Procedure for Submitting Extraordinary Criminal Justice Costs Petition**

The Extraordinary Criminal Justice Costs Act (RCW 43.330.190) establishes a procedure for counties to request state reimbursement for costs incurred in aggravated murder cases. A petition form to apply for aggravated murder case cost reimbursement for 2020 is available at <https://opd.wa.gov/>.

Pursuant to the Extraordinary Criminal Justice Costs Act, the petition is submitted to the Washington State Office of Public Defense (OPD), which will consult with the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys and the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to develop a prioritized funding list for the legislature. Funding is at the legislature's discretion.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, OPD is requesting Extraordinary Criminal Justice Cost petitions and supporting documents in electronic format only. It is OPD's hope that electronic petitions will be easier and safer to prepare for county employees who may be working remotely or in socially distanced office settings. Please see the instructions document for information on how to send your electronic petition files to OPD.

The petition deadline is Monday, December 7, 2020. Supplemental petition information for November and December expenses must be submitted to OPD by Friday, January 8, 2021.

Please contact Gideon Newmark at [gideon.newmark@opd.wa.gov](mailto:gideon.newmark@opd.wa.gov) or (360) 586-3164, ext. 105 if you have any questions.