RESOLUTION NO. 49-14

Mason County's Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinators Amends Resolution 28-09 and Title 2 Chapter 2.46 of the Mason County, Washington, Code of Ordinances

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed into law on July 26, 1990 and;

WHEREAS, Mason County adopted Resolution 28-09 acknowledging compliance with the law and designating the Human Resources Director and Facilities and Ground Director as ADA Coordinator contact persons for any internal or external complaints or grievances. Mason County, Washington, Code of Ordinances designated the personnel coordinator and facilities and grounds coordinator to be the designated contact and investigate complaints and grievances.

WHEREAS, the titles of these contact persons have changed as well as Mason County's Notice under the Americans with Disabilities Act has been expanded upon.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Mason County Commissioners herby designates the Support Services Director and Facilities, Parks and Trails Director as Mason County's ADA Coordinators for any internal or external complaints or grievances and authorizes posting of the expanded Notice under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ADA Coordinators shall post Mason County's ADA Grievance Procedure (Exhibit A) and Notice of Nondiscrimination (Exhibit B) in all County buildings.

DATED this <u>a</u> day of August 2014.

ATTEST:

Julie Almanzor, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Terry̆ Jeffrèy∕ş′,/Ch∕aiı

Randy Neatherlin, Commissioner

Tim Sheldon, Commissioner

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EXHIBIT A

The complainant is not precluded from filing formal complaints at any time during or after Mason County's grievance procedure with the Disability Right Section

> Civil Rights Division US Department of Justice PO Box 66738 Washington, D.C. 20035-6738

Complaints may also be sent to agencies designated to process complaints under the regulation, or to agencies that provide Federal financial assistance to the program in question.

Department of Agriculture Department of Education Dept. of Health & Human Services Dept. of Housing & Urban Development Department of Interior Department of Justice Department of Labor Department of Transportation

MASON COUNTY IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING EQUAL ACCESS TO OUR SERVICES.



AMERICANS with DISABIILITIUES ACT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Complaints should be addressed to: Mason County ADA Coordinator c/o Risk Management 411 North 5th Street Shelton, Washington 98584 (360) 427-9670

8/2014

Mason County has adopted an internal grievance procedure providing for prompt equitable resolution of complaints alleging any action prohibited by the U.S. Department of Justice regulations implementing Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Title II states, in part, that "no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of such disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination" in programs or activities sponsored by a public entity.

A complaint should be filed in writing and contain information about the alleged violation such as the name, address, phone number of complainant and the location, date and description of the violation. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as a personal interview, will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

A complaint should be filed as soon as possible, but no later than thirty (30) calendar days after the alleged violation. An investigation, as may be appropriate, shall follow the filing of a complaint within fifteen (15) calendar days. The investigation shall be conducted by Mason County's ADA Coordinator. These rules contemplate informal but thorough investigations, affording all interested persons and their representatives, if any, an opportunity to submit evidence relevant to a complaint.

A written determination as to the validity of the complaint and description of the resolution, if any, shall be issued by the ADA Coordinator, and copy forwarded to the complainant no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the investigation.

If the response of the ADA Coordinator does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant may appeal the decision within fifteen (15) calendar days after the receipt of the response to the Board of County Commissioners. A final decision will be made by the Board of County Commissioners within thirty (30) calendar days.

The ADA Coordinator shall maintain the files and records relating to complaints. Mason County shall retain these records for at least three years.

The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint filed hereunder shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies such as filing of an ADA complaint with the responsible federal department or agency. Use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies.

These rules shall be construed to protect the substantive rights of interested persons to meet appropriate due process standards, and to assure the Mason County complies with the ADA and implementing regulations.



NOTICE UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Mason County will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs or activities.

Employment: Mason County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under Title I of the ADA.

Effective Communication: Mason County will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified person with disabilities so they can participate equally in Mason County's programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, and various other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: Mason County will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities.

Requests for Accommodation: Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of Mason County, should contact the Court or Department directly.

Please make requests for accommodation at least 48 hours before the scheduled event.

Problems or Complaints:

John Keates, Facilities, Parks and Trails Director and ADA Coordinator 360-427-9670 or johnk@co.mason.wa.us Bill Kenny, Support Services Director and ADA Coordinator 360-427-9670 or <u>billk@co.mason.wa.us</u>.

The ADA does not require Mason County to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose and undue financial or administrative burden.

Complaints that a program, service, or activity of Mason County is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to the ADA Coordinators as listed above.

Mason County will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy.