July 8, 2022


The 2021 Legislature passed Governor-request legislation to create the Office of Independent Investigations (OII) to conduct investigations of police use of excessive force, effective July 1, 2022. The OII is the first statewide independent investigation agency in the nation.

OII requires support from someone with direct experience starting and managing an independent investigations agency to aid in the development of the OII organizational structure, position descriptions for investigation staff, multiple systems for notification, data tracking, and training related to investigations.

Richard Rosenthal started this work under a DES exemption contract (K02) that ran from 09/10/2021 to 6/30/2022. A series of unavoidable delays in the transition project has resulted in delays to Mr. Rosenthal’s body of work.

Mr. Rosenthal has experience starting a province-wide independent investigations unit where he served as its first director. Mr. Rosenthal’s also has experience working in the Washington State criminal justice system which provides him with an understanding of Washington state government, the operating environment for public agencies, and stakeholders in the criminal justice system.

Mr. Rosenthal’s experience establishing investigative organizations and programs, coupled with his participation in the OII transition uniquely qualify him to continue until the project is done.

OII will enter into a one (1) year contract with Richard Rosenthal. The contract will be issued on or after July 22, 2022.

The cost of this contract is $100,000. OII may opt to extend the contract for an additional single term of one (1) year if required. OII determines that an optional additional one (1) year extension would result in equal (and/or slightly higher) consideration being added to the total contract value.

Vendors who believe they possess the same experience and capabilities and meet the same requirements as Richard Rosenthal are invited to submit capability statements detailing their ability to meet the state’s requirements within five (5) business days of this announcement.
Capability statements should address the following state requirements:

- Demonstrated experience with starting and managing an independent investigations agency;
- Exhibited knowledge and expertise in criminal investigation disciplines as applied to the prosecutorial process;
- Exhibited knowledge and expertise in the preparation of law enforcement notification policies and procedures
- Expertise and ability to provide expert consultation on critical training curriculum for investigators.

In the absence of other qualified sources, it is the state’s intent to make a sole source award of the contract. To submit capability statements or for questions, contact:

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