

Events & Announcements



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

De-Escalate Washington

Charleena Lyles' family members, and other families affected by fatal police shootings, attended a press conference July 6 in front of Seattle City Hall announcing the launch of Initiative 940, which would allow prosecution of police in fatal use-of-force cases. De-Escalate Washington, an organization made up of the families of people killed by law enforcement, labor organizations, Native American tribes and advocates for immigrants, people of color and people with disabilities, needs to collect more than 260,000 signatures to get the measure before the legislature. The measure proposes the implementation of de-escalation training, mental health intervention and mandates that first aid be rendered if a civilian is injured by a police officer. It would also amend the standard for justifiable use of deadly force by law enforcement, including adding a "good faith" standard and requiring independent investigation.

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mory's 2017-2018 season is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle, and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank. Further support comes from Season Sponsors: Regional Arts and Culture Council, The Wallace Foundation and Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the state of Oregon and the National Endowment for the Arts. Mark Spencer Hotel is the official hotel partner. Portland Center Stage at The Armory was selected as a participant of the Wallace Foundation's Building Audiences for Sustainability Initiative, a four-year effort with a nationwide cohort of 26 performing arts organizations.

Seattle News Briefs

Investigator Found in 1984 Seattle Mayor Abused Foster Son

Three decades before Ed Murray was elected Seattle's mayor, an Oregon child-welfare investigator found that he had sexually abused his foster son, prompting state officials to conclude that "under no circumstances" should Murray serve as a foster parent in the future.

The findings were reported Sunday by *The Seattle Times*, after Oregon's Department of Human Services in April unearthed old records — previously thought to have been destroyed — at the newspaper's request. The agency initially withheld many of the documents, but it released them to the *Times* this month after it appealed, agreeing that it was in the public interest to do so.

"In the professional judgement of this caseworker who has interviewed numerous children of all ages and of all levels of emotional disturbance regarding sexual abuse, Jeff Simpson has been sexually abused by . Edward Murray," Child Protective Services caseworker Judy Butler wrote in the May 1984 assessment.

Murray's former foster son, Jeff Simpson, who now resides in Portland, is one of four men who publicly accused him this spring of sexually abusing them long ago. Murray adamantly denies the allegations, but he declined to seek re-election.

In a written response Sunday, Murray said the child-welfare investigator never interviewed him and that neither he nor his attorney was informed of the findings at the time. He said the allegations were fully investigated and prosecutors never brought charges.

"That she believed Jeff's claims at the time and advocated on his behalf is painful to see, but does not change the fact that, based on the totality of the evidence that was collected, the District Attorney declined to file charges," Murray said.

Still, the *Times* reported, the newly disclosed records reveal that a Multnomah County prosecutor declined to pursue charges because of Simpson's troubled personality, not because she thought he was lying.

"It was Jeff's emotional instability, history of manipulative behavior and the fact that he has again run away and made himself unavailable that forced my decision," Deputy District Attorney Mary Tomlinson wrote.

She added: "We could not be sure of meeting the high burden of proof in a criminal case — of proof beyond a reasonable doubt and to a moral certainty. However, this in no way means that the District Attorney's Office has decided Jeff's allegations are not true."

Simpson, now 49, had been abandoned as an infant. He lived under Murray's care for nearly a year and a half as a teenager, after meeting him when Murray counseled him at a Portland center for troubled teens in the late 1970s.

Simpson said the abuse began in 1980, when he was 13 and spending a weekend with Murray. The abuse continued after Murray became his foster father and lasted until he left Murray's care at age 16, Simpson said. At times, Murray paid Simpson \$10 or gave him drugs for sex, he said.

— *Associated Press*

Mayor Murray Signs Executive Order Requiring Body Cameras on Patrol Officers

This week, Ed Murray, working with City Attorney Pete Holmes, signed an Executive Order requiring all Seattle Police patrol officers to wear body-worn video

Community Calendar 2017

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Seattle Metro

THURSDAY, JULY 20

OVERLOOK WALK OPEN HOUSE: Join the Office of the Waterfront and our project partners for an informal open house in the newly opened Market Front Pavilion at Pike Place Market. Along with overall project updates, we'll share the latest designs. 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., Pike Place Market's Waterfront Pavilion, 1901 Western Ave.

SATURDAY – SUNDAY, JULY 22 – 23

RENEGADE CRAFT FAIR: This event showcases products like agriculture, horticultural, craft, cattle, sheep, farm products and much more! 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Magnuson Park, 7400 Sandpoint Way NE.

TUESDAY, JULY 25

HOMEBUYER'S CLASS: Learn how to get free money to purchase a first-time home. Learn how to qualify. Learn the five key steps to home buying, the four things lenders require for loan approval and much more. Learn about the Homes for Heroes Program also. 4 p.m. – 9 p.m., Federal Way Library, 848 S. 320th St., Federal Way.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

FAMILY CAMP: GOLD RUSH: Stop by the museum to hear the real story behind the Klondike Gold Rush and try some fun activities, including panning for gold. All ages welcome: Included in general admission or \$5 for event-only program. 10:30 a.m., Washington State History Museum, 19141 Pacific Ave., Tacoma.

SATURDAY, JULY 29

ALASKA AIRLINES SEAFAIR TORCHLIGHT PARADE FANFEST: Fun pre-run, pre-parade event with performances, food, exhibits and floats. Noon, Seattle Center, 305 Harrison St.

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cameras (body cameras).

The order requires the Seattle Police Department (SPD) to equip West Precinct bike patrol officers with cameras by July 22 and all West Precinct officers by September 30, putting the department on track to fully implement a program that has undergone multiple pilot programs. All other officers will get body cameras on a monthly precinct by precinct basis.

Murray is directing prompt implementation of the program to ensure no further significant uses of force by police officers go undocumented by a video record.

Murray first proposed funding for body cameras in his 2016 budget, months after the City was awarded a \$600,000 federal grant. The City then began a stakeholder and community engagement process as part of a 2016 pilot.

A March 2016 survey conducted by the Community Police Commission and SPD, as a part of its 2016 body-worn camera pilot program, found that 86 percent of community members would want officers to be wearing body cameras when they responded to a call for service.

Additionally, a study commissioned by the Federal Monitor overseeing the City's compliance with the federally mandated Consent Decree, found that 92 percent of Seattleites want to see body cameras on officers.

Major cities such as Oakland, Denver, Atlanta, Washington, D.C. and Detroit, and localities like Spokane currently have cameras on officers.

Save the date!

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BREAKFAST

JAN. 15, 2018
— NEW LOCATION —
RED LION - JANTZEN BEACH