



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
P.O. Box 41101 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1101

April 12, 2019

Mayor Durkan,

Thank you for sharing the video and written response from the concerned citizen regarding community supervision violators being dropped off at the James Street parking lot on Monday, April 8, 2019.

When we became aware of this situation we were also concerned so we conducted some internal fact finding. What we determined is these are not Washington State Department of Corrections (WADOC) employees and are actually Yakima County Sheriff's Office employees. The persons being transported are WADOC violators being returned from confinement time served at Yakima County Jail. We have contracts with the King County Jail and Yakima County. We asked Yakima County why this was taking place. The Yakima County Jail reported that dropping off in a parking lot was not standard practice. They are looking into the reason this occurred and we will share this information with you once we receive it.

A community supervision violator is someone who resides in the general community and has conditions including reporting to their community corrections officer. If they do not follow their specific court ordered conditions, they are considered to be in violation of their terms and sent to serve time in jail.

Individuals who violated their conditions from across the state are sent to a number of different jails, including King County Jail, depending on bed space availability. Yakima County Jail transports violators who served their time to the King County Jail. In the past the drop off location was the King County Jail, in the future it will be [Seattle Community Justice Center](#), a Department of Corrections facility.

Department of Corrections does supply violators with bus passes to assist with returning the individuals to their county and issues warrants for arrest when these individuals do not report to their community corrections officers on time or violate their terms of supervision.

Through partnership with state and city government, we are dedicated to improving public safety and working together for safe communities. In the future, we hope to expand conversations with the City of Seattle on improving reentry for the individuals returning to your community.

We want to be your partners in successful reentry and would be happy to meet and explore ways to improve these outcomes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Sinclair", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steve Sinclair
Secretary