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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County hires new Code Compliance Officer

January 9, 2004

Jefferson County has announced the hiring of Anthony "Tony" Hernandez to fill the newly created position of Code Compliance Officer. The position was created as part of the current 2004 county budget and has been placed in the Sheriff's Office Civil Division. Tony will be working closely with the Building Department, Environmental Health, the Prosecutor's Office, the County Administrator, and the Sheriff's Office to enhance the county's efforts in improving the quality of life in Jefferson County.

The Code Compliance Officer (CCO) will assist various county agencies with more complicated and time consuming complaints. He will work with individuals and neighborhoods to insure voluntary compliance with existing county codes. As a last resort, when necessary he will be involved in preparing cases for referral to the Prosecutor's Office.

The county has emphasized that the intent will continue to be on voluntary compliance with relevant codes, and that initial complaint intake, review and resolution remains the responsibility of the relevant county agency. The Code Compliance Officer will also review existing county complaint handling procedures, response and existing ordinances. Where appropriate, he will make recommendations to the County Administrator and Prosecutor for possible code changes.

Mr. Hernandez, a graduate of the University of Washington with a degree in Political Science, has been employed by the Sheriff's Office as a Patrol Deputy for over 2 years. Tony lives in Port Ludlow with his wife Evelyn and they are expecting their first child later this year.



Anthony "Tony" S. Hernandez

[Top](#)

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