**Law Enforcement–ICE Work Group’s Year-End Report for 2021**

Since early 2017, the Law Enforcement–ICE Work Group has engaged in dialogue with law enforcement agencies (LEAs) in Thurston County about the importance of leaving immigration policing to federal agencies. In 2021 the work group concentrated its efforts on 1) monitoring the headway, if any, LEAs have made in implementing the Keep Washington Working Act (KWW); and 2) encouraging these agencies to close gaps between departmental policies and procedures and each of the following benchmarks: the law itself, the Attorney General’s KWW model policy recommendations, and the Washington State Patrol’s immigration policies, which closely follow the AG’s guidance.

To this end, we pursued a three-pronged approach. First, via emails and Zoom meetings, we recommended policy changes to Lewis County and the Olympia and Tumwater police departments. Some of our recommendations were accepted; a decision is still pending in connection with others. Second, we completed a review of all email communications between ICE and/or the Border Patrol and Lewis and Thurston counties, Olympia, Tumwater, Lacey, Yelm, and Tenino, a survey that covered the first year and a half following KWW’s enactment. Our investigation yielded a potential KWW violation by a Lewis County probation officer, a finding we shared with the ACLU, the University of Washington Center for Human Rights, and the Lewis County Courthouse. Third, we responded to Thurston County’s call for public comment on its draft KWW policies by submitting a number of critical remarks. It is our understanding that the Board of County Commissioners is set to meet in the coming weeks to vote on a final policy.

The uneven local adoption of KWW-compliant policies impressed upon us the need to learn more about Lexipol, a private company with which most Washington state LEAs contract for policy advice and whose policy language with respect to immigration has at times proved wanting. Our research into Lexipol culminated in a presentation to SSA on June 7, 2021. We have since begun to explore ways to enlist the offices of influential organizations such as the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys in appealing to LEAs statewide to verify the compatibility of Lexipol policy recommendations with applicable state and federal laws, thus avoiding unnecessary legal exposure.

For further details on our activities, please see the attached chart.