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Judge
Jennifer Grant

Administrator
Julie Espinoza

Judicial Policy on Immigration Enforcement in the LFP Municipal Court

Purpose

To ensure that the Lake Forest Park Municipal Court is accessible and open to all people to resolve disputes under the rule of law.

Policy

The Lake Forest Park Municipal Court maintains the principle that our court must remain open and accessible for all individuals to seek assistance, observe proceedings, attend hearings and appointments, and resolve disputes under the rule of law. It is the policy of the Lake Forest Park Municipal Court that civil arrest warrants of individuals based on their immigration status should not be executed within the Lake Forest Park Municipal Courtroom unless it is directly ordered by the Presiding Judge. This policy does not prohibit law enforcement from executing warrants when public safety is at immediate risk or pursuant to a court order authorizing arrest. Prior to any civil arrest, the Presiding Judge or assigned Judicial Officer shall review the court order authorizing arrest to ensure compliance with the law.

Authority/References

Washington State Court Rule, General Rule 38 (GR 38) Open Access to Courts, no person shall be subject to civil arrest without a judicial order while the person is inside the court. This includes the building, parking area, grassy areas, sidewalks, plazas, court-related offices, and entrances to and exits from the building and said spaces.

State Law RCW 2.28.330 Privilege from Civil Arrest – Court Facilities, no person is subject to civil arrest while going to, remaining at, or returning from, a court facility. For the purposes of this section, “going to” and “returning from” includes the area within one mile of the court facility.

Washington State Supreme Court Justice Debra Stephens, “Information and Resources – Immigration Enforcement in & Around Courthouses” letter sent via email, dated February 3, 2025.

Dated this 14 of February, 2025.

A blue ink signature of Jennifer Grant, the Presiding Judge, is written over a horizontal line.

Presiding Judge Jennifer Grant