

From: [Cooper, Kathleen \(SAO\)](#)
To: [Leider, Mary \(SAO\)](#)
Subject: FW: Pierce County Audit
Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 12:14:59 PM
Attachments: [PC FY23 AC Exit Conference PPT - Final.pdf](#)
[Exit Packet – Pierce County FY23 Accountability.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

For our public records log – I shared these items with Moe Clark, a reporter with InvestigateWest.

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From: Cooper, Kathleen (SAO)
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 12:13 PM
To: Moe Clark <moe@investigatwest.org>
Cc: Wilson, Adam (SAO) <wilsona@sao.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pierce County Audit

Hi Moe!

Happy to help.

First, I've attached the exit conference packet and the exit conference slides as a PDF to this email. The people at the exit conference got the packet and saw the slides.

Here is who was invited:

- County Executive Ryan Mello
- Deputy County Executive Scott Nicholson
- County Finance Director Julie Demuth
- County Council Chief of Staff Hugh Taylor – this is how we invite councilmembers
- County Internal Auditor Tom Taylor
- County Chief Accountant Jackie Carney

Here is who attended:

- Wendy Choy, SAO AD
- Sandra Groshong, SAO AM
- Lorraine Nitta, SAO AAM
- Kassandra Zohn, SAO AIC
- Scott Nicholson, Deputy Executive
- Jani Hitchen, County Council Chair
- Hugh Taylor, Council Chief of Staff

John Lane, Senior Counsel

- Julie Demuth, Finance Director
- Arel Solie, Director of Emergency Management
- Tom Taylor, Internal Auditor
- Jackie Carney, Chief Accountant

Here are those who did not attend but who received the exit packet via email:

- Ryan Mello, County Executive
- Lillian Scott, Executive Assistant
- Dave Morell, Councilmember
- Paul Herrera, Vice Chair
- Amy Cruver, Councilmember
- Rosie Ayala, Councilmember
- Bryan Yambe, Councilmember
- Robyn Denson, Councilmember

Finally, you asked me to clarify the role of the Military Department in our audit. The Military Department is a state agency, and its officials are the subject matter experts on state law regarding emergency operations. This is why we consulted them.

Let me now how else I can help.

Kathleen



Kathleen Cooper

Director of Communications, [Office of the Washington State Auditor](#)
(564) 999-0800 (find me anywhere via Teams) | Pronouns: She, Her, Hers
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From: Moe Clark <moe@investigatwest.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 10:12 AM
To: Cooper, Kathleen (SAO) <cooperk@sao.wa.gov>
Subject: Pierce County Audit

External Email

Hi Kathleen,

Great chatting - thanks for getting me the info about the exit conference and the distribution of audit #1037450.

And would love to set up a time to learn more about FIT! That's right up my alley.

Talk soon,

- Moe

Moe K. Clark

Investigative Reporter // InvestigateWest

moe@investigatwest.org // 603.566.5210

she/her/hers