



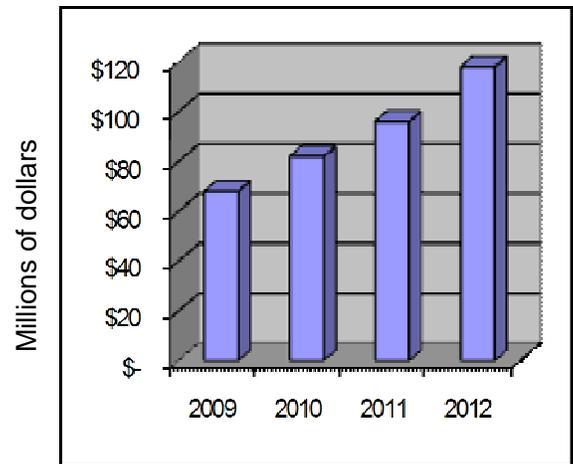
# Public Safety in Peril

June 2008

For the past several years, King County's criminal justice agencies have worked hard to create an efficient and effective criminal justice system. Crime is down and criminal cases are investigated, reviewed, filed, and resolved without significant delay. We offer innovative programs such as Drug and Mental Health Court and provide important victim services.

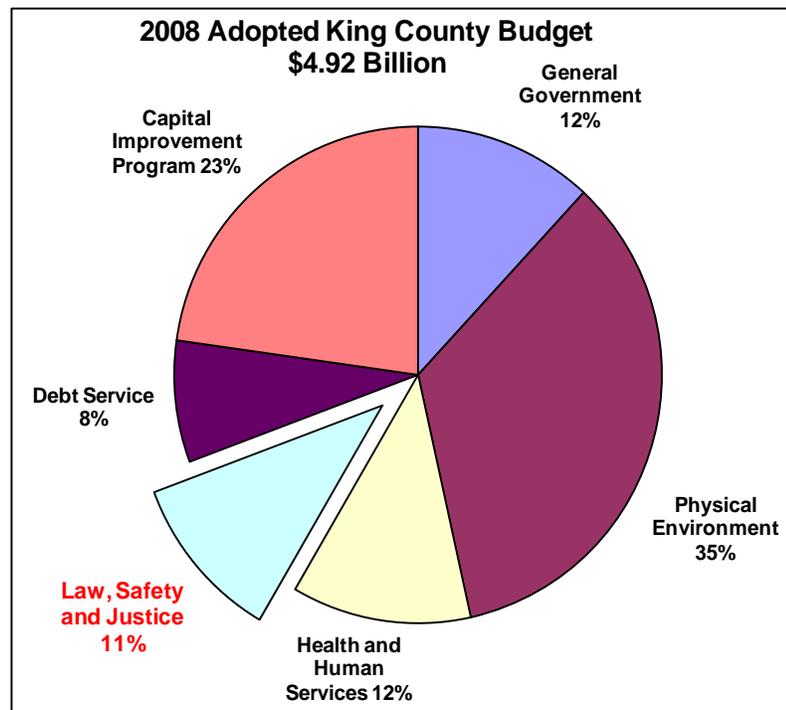
In addition, we have the capacity to house all offenders who pose a risk to public safety, provide an array of jail alternatives for certain low-level offenders, and offer constitutionally-required health services for inmates.

Because of an estimated \$68 million county budget shortfall, the King County Executive has directed the criminal justice system to take an "across-the-board" budget cut of 8.6% for 2009. These cuts threaten the quality of justice in King County and puts public safety at risk.



Projected budget deficit

This is a multi-year problem with annual criminal justice cuts projected through 2012.



Only 11% of King County's budget is allocated to our criminal justice system.

Source: King County Budget Office

## Proposed Budget Cuts

This is what those cuts look like for each agency:

King County Prosecuting Attorney	8.6%.....\$3.7 million
King County Sheriff's Office	8.6%.....\$7.5 million
King County Superior Court	8.6%.....\$3.8 million
King County District Court	8.6%.....\$2.1 million
King County Jail	8.6%.....\$11.2 million
Office of Public Defense	8.6%..... <u>\$3.4 million</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$31.7 million</b>

### Impacts to the Sheriff's Office

**Loss of 100 deputies and staff, resulting in discontinued or reduced services:**

- Eliminate the investigation of property crimes valued under \$10,000
- Eliminate the investigation of most frauds, internet crimes, bad checks cases, etc.
- Eliminate centralized drug investigations
- Eliminate the centralized investigation of domestic violence
- Eliminate "cold case" investigations
- Reduce services in neighborhood storefront centers
- Reduce hours of public services such as gun permits
- Reduce outreach services for youth and victims of crime



*In 2007 the King County Sheriff's Office took 117,310 dispatched calls for service and arrested and/or filed charges on 14,394 suspects.*

*Of those total number of Sheriff's Office cases, 15,805 were property crimes (auto theft, burglary and larceny).*