



King County

Department of Executive Services

Inquest Program

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 135

Seattle, WA 98104

206-477-6191

TTY Relay 711

Webpage: kingcounty.gov/inquests

Email: Inquests@kingcounty.gov

INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF EUGENE DEWAN NELSON INQUEST # 417IQ2075

AMENDED PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE ORDER for October 6, 2022

Family of the decedent:	The Family of Eugene Dewan Nelson represented by Teri Rogers Kemp (family not present at this hearing)
Law enforcement officers and Employing government department:	Kent Police Department and Officer John Waldo and Officer Jacob Reed represented by Jeremy Culumber (officers not present at this hearing)
Inquest Administrator:	Robert McBeth
Inquest Program Attorney:	Claire Thornton and Cady Nicol
Inquest Program Coordinators:	Flo Armah (primary); Angelina Jimeno (secondary)

The Inquest Administrator, having continued the Inquest Hearing in an order entered on October 7, 2022, hereby supplements such order as follows:

Since the October 6, 2022 Pre-Hearing Conference, the Inquest Program Attorneys have consulted with counsel for the Kent Police Department and the Involved Officers and counsel for the Family regarding setting the new Inquest Hearing date. While the Kent Police Department and Involved Officers do not agree to any continuance beyond October 17, 2022, their preferred date is May 8, 2023, rather than an earlier date in 2023, due to their own scheduling concerns, and to allow time to review any report from the Family's expert and have sufficient time to consult and retain their own expert, if necessary. The Family has agreed to the May 8, 2023, hearing date.

Accordingly, the Inquest Hearing is set for May 8, 2023. The Inquest Administrator expects that testimony and the presentation of evidence will conclude on or before May 19, 2023.

The Inquest Administrator further clarifies the reasons for continuing the October 17, 2022 Inquest Hearing date:


Prior to the October 6, 2022 Pre-Hearing Conference, the Family made a motion to continue the October 17, 2022, Inquest Hearing date via email. No briefing was filed prior to the PHC, so the Family made the motion orally at the hearing, stating the bases for the motion. These bases are listed in the October 7, 2022, order.

The motion to continue was based in part upon the Family's request for expert services, which was reviewed and counsel for the Family was informed via email on October 17, 2022, that the request had been granted by Inquest Administrator Michael Spearman. It is clear that the Family needs time to complete the use of force expert consultation, to conduct additional investigation and evaluation of evidence after having interviewed the Medical Examiner Dr. Harruff on September 23, 2022, and to interview the subpoenaed civilian witnesses, as well as a civilian witness that has been released by IA McBeth from subpoena, to be prepared for the Inquest Hearing. The Family's attorney has also just completed the Lightfeather Inquest Hearing.

The Family's request for a use of force expert, as well as feedback the Inquest Program received from the previous three inquest juries, prompted the Inquest Administrator to also consider consulting a use of force expert for advice on how best to present information relevant to the officers' compliance with policy and training to the jury.

The continuance of the October 17, 2022 Inquest Hearing date was based both on the Family's request for a continuance but also the Inquest Administrator needing sufficient time to consult an expert.

Dated: November 9, 2022.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert McBeth".

Inquest Administrator Robert McBeth