



Rob McKenna

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

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August 5, 2011

James V. Smith, II
Director of Corrections & Law Enforcement/Staff Attorney
Teamsters Local Union 117
14675 Interurban Avenue S, Suite 307
Tukwila, WA 98168

Dear Mr. Smith:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 29, 2011, asking for an opinion relating to identification of DOC personnel as being qualified to carry a concealed firearm.

The Attorney General's Office is only authorized to provide advice and legal representation to members of the legislature, state agency heads, and, in some circumstances, county prosecuting attorneys. In light of this, we must decline to provide your requested opinion. I have enclosed a copy of our opinions brochure, which may provide you with additional information. If you would like to pursue this matter further, I would suggest contacting your legislators.

I would additionally note that our opinions process is limited to providing legal analysis to state and local officials for the purpose of assisting them in the performance of their legal duties. Unlike the judicial process, opinions are not well-suited to providing factual analysis or generalized legal guidance on a topic. Your questions appear to seek the latter, requesting generalized guidance as to how certain DOC personnel might identify themselves to law enforcement.

Finally, your letter mentions the Law Enforcement Digest. You may wish to contact the editor of that publication directly.

Sincerely,

JEFFREY T. EVEN
Deputy Solicitor General
(360) 586-0728

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enclosure (opinions brochure)