

Message from Attorney Parker

Should the ends always justify the means? Should it ever? It seems we are now living in an era of situational ethics. People take sides and compromise their ethics to fit the side they want to take. I believe this is a dangerous practice. Right and Wrong should not change depending on who is committing the act. Lately I believe that our Courts have fallen into the tempting trap of deciding ahead of time what they want the results to be and then trying to find the law or case precedent to fit the outcome they have predetermined. It is therefore important to realize that your fight for justice may require perseverance and a willingness to appeal and wait years for justice.

Complaint Deadline for Reporting Employment Discrimination Extended to Two Years



The King County Council recently passed an ordinance extending the statute of limitations for reporting employment discrimination or workplace harassment from 180 days to two years. Inspired by the #MeToo Movement, read <u>here</u> about how Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles intends for this change to achieve justice for victims.

Affirmative Action in Washington

After decades-long а ban, Washington had the opportunity to reinstate affirmative action. The November ballot gave a chance minimizing at inequalities by improving education, employment and housing opportunities for disadvantaged groups. However, voters struck down on the



initiative. It is unclear if Washington will implement other policies to increase equitable opportunities but it will not be doing so through affirmative action. Read more <u>here</u> about this initiative.

King County Fair Disparity



Black passengers using public transit are significantly overrepresented in the Sound Transit fare enforcement system. Although fare enforcement practices are designed to be unbiased, they fail to prevent disproportionate punishment. Potential solutions have been identified, but many question whether a public transit system should be punishing people who cannot afford to ride in the

first place. Read more <u>here</u> about this need for systemic reform, and how Sound Transit has yet to rise to the challenge.

Jeffrey Epstein's Death Signaled a Call for Dramatic US Prison System Reform

Shocking news about Jeffrey Epstein's August 10, 2019 death and the subsequent indictment of two federal prison guards brought to light the need for US prison reform. Read about <u>here</u> how prison suicide rates, the systemic use of solitary confinement, and chronic understaffing impacted the MCC and other prisons throughout the country.

