



Washington Coalition *for*
Open Government
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From: Washington Coalition for Open Government

Topic: WCOG Recognizes Lincoln County Commissioners and the Kingen family with Key Awards

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The Washington Coalition for Open Government will give all three Lincoln County Commissioners Key Awards for unanimously approving a resolution to conduct collective bargaining sessions with county employee unions in public. Key Awards are given throughout the year to people and organizations that have done something notable for the cause of open government.

The decision by the Lincoln County Commission was lauded by local media and by the conservative Freedom Foundation, which has long advocated collective bargaining be done in the open. Along with the Commissioners, WCOG will also honor Mark Hayward of that organization for drafting the resolution adopted by the Commission in September.

Also in September, WCOG presented a Key Award to Gerald and Kathy Kingen of West Seattle who sued the City of SeaTac for public records related to a land grab scheme, which cheated the couple out of land for a park and fly. The city stalled on releasing the records and the couple went to court and prevailed. The records revealed an elaborate scheme on behalf of former city officials to stop the Kingen's development. The Kingens were eventually awarded \$18 million dollars in the case, which is currently under appeal.

Join WCOG and help in the non-partisan fight for transparent government and open public participation. WCOG was founded in 2002 by a group of individuals representing organizations with a broad spectrum of opinions and interests but all dedicated to the principles of strengthening the state's open government laws and protecting the public's access to government at all levels. WCOG stands for the principle that transparency and public participation are essential building blocks of good government.

Membership is open to the public. For more information contact WCOG at 6351 Seaview Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98107-2664, on the web at www.washingtoncog.org, or call (206) 782-0393