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NEGLIGENCE - WASHINGTON

Estate of Brown by and through Brown v. King County

Court of Appeals of Washington, Division 3 - March 19, 2026 - P.3d - 2026 WL 772580

Estate of marijuana dispensary employee, who was murdered by youths who absconded from their pretrial electronic home monitoring (EHM) under supervision of county department of adult and juvenile detention (DAJD), brought action against county for negligence.

The Superior Court granted county's motion for summary judgment. Estate appealed.

The Court of Appeals held that:

- DAJD had duty to protect third persons from bodily harm posed by youths under its supervision, but
- Any failure by DAJD to promptly notify law enforcement that youths had absconded was not cause in fact of murder.

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