## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** July 24, 2025

Subject: Clarification on ICE-Related Incident Near City Hall

**Fircrest, WA** — On June 23, 2025, an incident involving U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents occurred outside Fircrest City Hall. The City of Fircrest would like to provide clarity and reassurance to the community in response to concerns stemming from this event.

While arriving at City Hall, a City official encountered what initially appeared to be police officers in pursuit of an individual near the premises. The officers were later identified as ICE agents. Fircrest Police officers did not participate in the pursuit or subsequent arrest and were not contacted by ICE for assistance. The City had no prior knowledge of the ICE action and was not contacted by ICE prior to this incident.

The individual involved had appeared in court earlier in the day and was later observed in the City Hall lobby, accompanied by an attorney. He remained in the building for some time before being escorted outside by several other individuals. ICE agents, positioned in various locations near City Hall, arrested the individual at his vehicle without incident.

To the City's knowledge, ICE did not enter City Hall in an official capacity. While two individuals in plain clothes briefly inquired about court matters, it is unconfirmed whether they were affiliated with ICE.

We understand that this event caused concern among City staff and community members. We want to assure the public that this was a targeted arrest and not part of a broader enforcement action or immigration "raid."

The Fircrest Police Department remains committed to the safety and well-being of all community members, regardless of immigration status. In accordance with RCW 10.93.160, the department does not enforce federal civil immigration laws, does not inquire about immigration status unless directly tied to a criminal investigation, and does not detain individuals based solely on immigration-related warrants or holds.

The Fircrest Police Department maintains clear policies regarding immigration-related matters and does not participate in ICE raids or enforcement operations. Our officers remain focused on public safety, peacekeeping, and supporting our community through lawful, respectful, and impartial service.

For questions or additional information, please contact City Manager Dawn Masko at 253-564-8901 or dmasko@cityoffircrest.net.