

BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

FOUND PROPERTY RIGHTS STATEMENT

BICYCLE       JEWELRY       MONEY       OTHER PROPERTY  
 FINDER/NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 FINDER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ BUS. PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 LOCATION WHERE PROPERTY FOUND/CROSS STREETS \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

STATEMENT: I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby certify that on the  
 \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, at approximately \_\_\_\_\_, I found  
 the unclaimed personal property which I have [ ] reported to [ ] turned  
 over to the Burlington Police Department, under Case Number \_\_\_\_\_ at  
 the location listed above, and that in accordance with the provisions of  
 Title 63 of the Code of Washington, (the relevant portion of which is  
 printed on the reverse hereof), which advises me of my rights and  
 responsibilities as the finder of said property. I further understand  
 that if I desire to file a claim to said property, if the owner is not  
 located, that I must fully comply with the provisions of said statute,  
 further, that in failing to do so, I forfeit all rights and claims to  
 said property.

At this time [ ] I do [ ] I do not desire to assert my rights to claim  
 said property if the true owner is not located.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Witnessed By \_\_\_\_\_

*123*

**TITLE 63 – REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON**  
**CHAPTER 63.21 – LOST AND FOUND PROPERTY**

63.21.010 – Procedure where finder wishes to claim found property—Appraisal—Surrender of property—Notice of intent to claim—Publication. (1) Any person who finds property that is not unlawful to possess, the owner of which is unknown, and who wishes to claim the found property, shall:

- (a) Within seven days of the finding acquire a signed statement setting forth an appraisal of the current market value of the property prepared by a qualified person engaged in buying or selling like items or by a district court judge, unless the found property is cash; and
- (b) Within seven days report the find of property and surrender, if requested, the property and a copy of the evidence of the value of the property to the chief law enforcement officer, or his or her designated representative, of the governmental entity where the property was found, and serve written notice upon the officer of the finder's intent to claim the property if the owner does not make out his or her right to it under this chapter.
- (c) Within thirty days of the report the governmental entity shall cause notice of the finding to be published at least once a week for two successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the property was found, unless the appraised value of the property is less than the cost of publishing notice. If the value is less than the cost of publishing notice, the governmental entity may cause notice to be posted or published in other media or formats that do not incur expense to the governmental entity.

63.21.20 Circumstances extinguishing finder's claim to property. The finder's claim to the property shall be extinguished:

1. If the owner satisfactorily establishes, within sixty days after the find was reported to the appropriate officer, the owner's right to possession of the property; or
2. If the chief law enforcement officer determines and so informs the finder that the property is illegal for the finder to process.

63.21.30 Release of property to finder—Limitations—Payment to governmental entity—Expiration of finder's claim.

1. The found property shall be released to the finder and become the property of the finder sixty days after the find was reported to the appropriate officer if no owner has been found, or sixty days after the final disposition of any judicial or other official proceeding involving the property, whichever is later. The property shall be released only after the find was reported to the appropriate officer if no owner has been found, or sixty days after the final disposition of any judicial or other official proceeding involving the property, whichever is later. The property shall be released only after the finder has presented evidence of payment to the treasurer of the governmental entity handling the found property, the amount of ten (\$10) dollars plus the amount of the cost of publication of notice incurred by the government (governmental) entity pursuant to RCW 63.21.010, which amount shall be deposited in the general fund of the governmental entity. If the appraised value of the property is less than the cost of publication of notice of the finding, then the finder is not required to pay any fee.
2. When ninety days have passed after the found property was reported to the appropriate officer, or ninety days after the final disposition of the judicial or other proceeding involving the found property, and the finder has not completed the requirements of this found property may be disposed of as unclaimed property under Chapter 63.32 or 63.40 RCW. Such laws shall also apply whenever a finder states in writing that he or she has no intention of claiming the found property.