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FILED FILED SUPREME COURT Court of Appeals STATE OF WASHINGTON Division III 1/17/2023 Appestate Gt. Wishington. 3831: BY ERIN L. LENNON 1/13/2023 4:12 PM CLERK SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN RE TAX FORECLOSURE SALE SURPLUS OF 58 CIRCLE, REPUBLIC, WASHINGTON (Ferry County) PARCEL NO. 23824210001000

> IRWIN LAW FIRM, INC., a Washington State Legal Entity Christal Olivia Irwin, Principal Attorney, Appellant(s)

> > V.

FERRY COUNTY TREASURER, RODAK, Rochelle, and FERRY COUNTY PROSECUTOR Burke, Kathryn Isabel,

Respondent(s).

PETITION FOR REVIEW

APPEAL FROM THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR FERRY COUNTY

Hon. Jessica Reeves Cause No. 20-2-00055-10

> C. Olivia Irwin (WSBA #43924) Attorney for Appellant(s) Irwin Law Firm, Inc.

1331 E. Ivy Avenue Colville, WA 99114 (509) 685-7074

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N.A.

A. IDENTITY OF PETITIONER (RAP 13.4(c)(3)):

IRWIN LAW FIRM, (Plaintiff/Appellant below) asks

this court to accept review of the Court of Appeals decision

terminating review designated in Part B of this petition.

B. COURT OF APPEALS DECISION (RAP 13.4(c)(4), RAP 13.4(c)(9):

A Copy of ORDER SETTING CASE W/O ORAL ARGUMENT ORIGINALLY entered on 7/8/2022 is attached as APPENDICE A. A copy of the UNPUBLISHED OPINION

entered on 10/20/2022 is attached as APPENDICE B. A copy of

the ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR

RECONSIDERATION AND MOTION TO PUBLISH entered

on 12/13/22 is attached as APPENDICE C.

C. ISSUES PRESENTED FOR REVIEW (RAP 13.4(c)(5)

- 1. Does the lien extinguishment provision of RCW 84.64.080(10) in favor of the Record Owner constitute a Taking of existing lienholder interests without Due Process or Just Compensation, in violation of WA Constitution. Article 1, Section 16?
- 2. Do Counties/County Officers have a statutory duty under RCW 84.64.080(10) as written to notify and provide an application process to record owners so that that "upon application" they may to recover the surplus from the sale of their tax-foreclosed homes, (and thus make it reachable by lienholders?)
- 3. Does unrecorded "consideration" on appeal violate fundamental principles of Due Process as well as the Washington State Open Public Meetings act?

D. STATEMENT OF CASE (RAP 13.4(c)(6))

RCW 84.64.080(10) provisions extinguishing all duly recorded liens on tax foreclosed property in favor of the County Treasurer—inclusive of any surplus--constitutes a prima facie total regularory Taking without Due Process or Just Compensation in violation of U.S. Constitution Amendment V, and WA Constitution Article 1, Section 16. Inter alia, the previously-established vageness of its provision to return any surplus to the record owner "upon application" (but not explicitly providing for notice to the record owner of their rights) during the 3 year statutory period (after which it is forfeited to the county treasurer in the name of "convenience") legitimizes theft through inaction. This being the case, the Trial Court erred in denying a Writ of Mandamus directing the Ferry County Treasurer and/or Prosecutor to do their duty under RCW 84.64.080(10) to notify the record owner (Mr. Green), provide an application process, and/or distribute the funds according to lien priority as under RCW 64.¹

¹ The Trial Court also abused discretion in failing to allow amendment to the Plaintiff's Complaint and to enforce the Public Records Act Request plainly made as part of the discovery process." The Appellate Court's rationalization that the Appellant's request under/citation of the PRA as "easily overlooked" is disingenuous considering the fact that it was also repeated via e-mail as well as at hearing; in addition to being cited by the Appellants as part of the basis of appeal. It is also irrelevant, as the fax to the County prior to filing suit was the request that started the clock under the PRA (which is still running, and may yet lead to additional action if not addressed here).

While it may be a longstanding practice, the Appellate Court's sua sponte decision to decide this matter without any stated reason has no basis in any rule or law, created undue burdens to secure an oral hearing, therefore limiting access to justice and procedural due process. So too, "consideration" by judges as a group who make no record and do not allow public access is at least arguably a violation of the *Open Public Meetings Act* (RCW 42.30) which renders void any decision made and may subject participants to penalties for denial of public access. (See RCW 42.30.060(1), RCW 42.30.120(1)(2).

Whether it should be void as a matter of law or not, it should be observed that this practice inevitably leads to judicial confusion and faulty decisions with only a motion to reconsider (which the court is happy to remind us here, it "didn't need to consider"), thereby diminishing both the effectiveness of the review process.

Fore example, the Appellate Court's posture that the Petitioners could have simply garnished the Record Owner from the beginning is circular and exceedingly improper under the circumstances presented in this case.² Aside from the disabled condition of said garnishee and the general issue of possible spolitation/conversion of funds that rightly belong to lienholders³ To come to this conclusion, one must also ignore the glaring fact that but for this lawsuit, there would be nothing to garnish. The Officials in question demonstrarted no intent to follow the law and only corrected their conduct once the matter was well under appeal. It is more than obvious that Ferry County would have kept the surplus, but for the Petition filed by the Petitioner, and that all three elements were present for a writ to issue: (1) the party subject to the writ was under a clear duty to act, (2) the petitioner had no plain,

²To be forced to conduct additional investigation and litigation (which now must be done over state lines) after recording the lien as well as waging this case goes well beyond the "normal stresses of litigation" and further diminishes the value of the lien.

³ Here, as the Record Owner remains institutionalized and disabled-- the funds have been preserved by the POA, but in another state. The POA totally ignored/abandoned by this proceeding as he knows not how to participate, is "waiting for the judge to tell him what to do with it."

speedy and adequate remedy in the ordinary course of law, and (3) the petitioner is beneficially interested. (RCW 7.16.040) Contrary to the Appellate Court's holding, an adequate remedy did not exist because the Petitioners had no other process by which to seek that relief. *Pimentel v. Judges of King County Superior Court*, 197 Wn.2d 365, 373-74, 482 P.3d 906 (2021); *Riddle v. Elofson*, 193 Wn.2d 423, 436, 439 P.3d 647 (2019). The correctness of the action is self-evident, and according to law, the Petitioner(s) are entitled not only to official acknowledgement of that fact, but compensation in the form of statutory attorney fees and costs.

E. ARGUMENT (RAP 13.4(c)(7))

1. The Appellate Court's decision in this matter is in conflict with previous decisions of the Supreme Court RAP 13.4(b)(1); 2, RCW 84.64.080(10) is a violation of the family of Constitutional decisions with regard to Takings in this State. (RAP 13.4(b)(3)); 3. This matter presents issues of substantial public interest that should be determined by the Supreme Court. RAP 13.4(b)(4). At best, RCW 84.64.080(10) creates countless victims of vagueness—including the multitude of state citizens subject to tax foreclosure and the lienholders whose interest preceded and is rightly superior to the State's interest in any surplus from the sale of property. At worst it is an intentional escheatment scheme that violates the Constitution and multiple lien statutes--providing a surplus revenue stream for Counties under the guise of "convenience." Either way, it is an issue of substantial public interest that should be determined by the Supreme Court. RAP 13.4(b)(4).

F. CONCLUSION (RAP 13.4(c)(8))

RCW 84.64.010 represents is an prima facie unconstitutional taking of all lienholder interests in the surplus of tax-foreclosure sale of any property. That notwithstanding, the duty to notify and provide an application process for obtaining surplus funds to the Record Owner under RCW 84.64.080(10) as written is clear by operation of logic. This case should be remanded for the award of attorneys fees in bringing their Petition for Writ of Mandamus action with which the County only complied post-trial. (RCW 7.16.260) Alternately, if the court should agree with the Trial Court that the statute is somehow not clear with regard to this, it is the responsibility of This Court to clarify it. Petititoners also ask that This Court articulate a standard for when a hearing should be held without oral argument, if ever, upon de novo review.

Respectfully submitted this 13th Day of January 2023 with an automated word count of 2288^4 by

> <u>s/Christal Olivia Irwin, J.D</u> C. Olivia Irwin (WSBA No. 43924)

⁴exclusive of words appendices, the title sheet, the table of contents, the table of authorities, the certificate of compliance, the certificate of service, signature blocks, and pictorial images. RAP 18.17(b);(c)(16), RAP 17.4(c)(17)



<u>APPENDICE A</u>:

7/8/2022 ORDER SETTING CASE W/O ORAL ARGUMENT

Tristen L. Worthen Clerk/Administrator

(509) 456-3082 TDD #1-800-833-6388 The Court of Appeals of the State of Washington Division III

.

500 N Cedar ST Spokane, WA 99201-1905

Fax (509) 456-4288 http://www.courts.wa.gov/courts

July 8, 2022

Christal Olivia Irwin, JD Irwin Law Firm Inc 204 S Oak St Unit 304 Colville, WA 99114-2871 atty@irwinfirm.com Kathryn Isabel Burke Ferry County Prosecutor's Office 350 E Delaware Ave Stop 11 Republic, WA 99166-9747 kiburke@co.ferry.wa.us

CASE # 383181 In re: Tax Foreclosure Sale Surplus of 58 Rosehaven Circle, et al FERRY COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT No. 2020005510

Counsel:

During its preargument workup of this case, the Court decided it is appropriate for determination by a panel of this court <u>WITHOUT</u> oral argument. It has been scheduled for consideration on September 7, 2022.

If the parties wish the court to consider setting the case for oral argument, we will entertain a motion to that effect. A request for oral argument should be made by motion filed within 10 days of receipt of the letter setting the date for no oral argument. The movant should confer with opposing counsel and report any objections.

Your copy of the Court's opinion will be mailed to you after it is filed in the Clerk's office. Opinions are also available at <u>www.courts.wa.gov/opinions/</u>.

Sincerely,

Tristen Worthen Clerk/Administrator

TLW:sd

Note: Your attention is directed to Title 14 and Rule 18.1 of the Rules of Appellate Procedure regarding Costs, Attorneys Fees and Expenses on Appeal.

<u>APPENDICE B</u>:

10/20/2022 UNPUBLISHED OPINION

FILED

OCTOBER 20, 2022 In the Office of the Clerk of Court WA State Court of Appeals, Division III

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON DIVISION THREE

In the Matter of the Tax Foreclosure Sale)	No. 38318-1-III
Surplus of)	
58 ROSEHAVEN CIRCLE, REPUBLIC,)	
WASHINGTON (FERRY COUNTY))	
PARCEL NO. 23824210001000).)	
)	
IRWIN LAW FIRM, INC.,)	
a Washington State Legal Entity, and)	
CHRISTAL OLIVIA IRWIN, Principle)	
Attorney.)	UNPUBLISHED OPINION
)	
Appellants,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
FERRY COUNTY TREASURER)	
ROCHELLE RODAK, and)	
FERRY COUNTY PROSECUTOR)	
KATHRYN ISABEL BURKE,)	
)	
Respondents.)	

LAWRENCE-BERREY, J. — Christal Olivia Irwin and Irwin Law Firm, Inc. (ILF) appeal the dismissal of their petition for a writ of mandamus and the denial of their motion to shorten time and amend their complaint. We dismiss the former as moot and affirm the latter.

FACTS

In 2016, ILF represented Andre Becklin in a civil lawsuit against Richard Green. Mr. Green had shot Mr. Becklin in the face, causing him serious permanent injuries. ILF obtained a default judgment on behalf of its client for over \$500,000, including \$10,950 in attorney fees.

In September 2018, the Ferry County Treasurer's Office sent a letter to ILF and others with an interest in a parcel of property owned by Mr. Green.¹ The letter notified ILF that Ferry County was foreclosing against the parcel because Mr. Green was delinquent in paying his property taxes. It also said Ferry County was seeking an order authorizing the sale of the property, and the sale would provide the new purchaser title free and clear of most liens.

Days later, Ms. Irwin faxed to the Ferry County Prosecutor's Office a copy of Mr. Becklin's judgment and ILF's claim of lien for attorney fees.² Ms. Irwin indicated she would record the claim of lien and asked the prosecutor's office to let her know what position it would take with respect to it. The prosecutor's office did not respond. A

¹ Becklin's superior court judgment created a judgment lien against Mr. Green's real property in Ferry County. See RCW 4.56.190.

² We note that RCW 60.40.010(1), the attorney fee lien statute, does not permit an attorney fee lien against an adverse party's real property.

couple of months later, Ms. Irwin learned that Mr. Green's parcel had been foreclosed and there was \$16,795.12 in surplus funds after payment of the county's judgment for unpaid taxes.

Almost one year later, in October 2019, Ms. Irwin spoke to the Ferry County treasurer about the surplus funds. The treasurer said she would speak to the prosecutor's office and send Ms. Irwin an e-mail. Ms. Irwin did not receive an e-mail and left multiple voicemails with the treasurer's office over the next several months.

In November 2020, Ms. Irwin and ILF filed a petition for a writ of mandamus, naming as respondents the Ferry County treasurer and the Ferry County prosecuting attorney (the County). Ms. Irwin and ILF (the petitioners) argued that the Ferry County treasurer had failed to follow the procedures of RCW 61.24.080, which concerns deed of trust foreclosure sales. The County did not timely respond, so the petitioners noted for hearing their request that the court issue a writ of mandamus.

Shortly before the hearing, the County filed its answer to the mandamus petition and moved to dismiss it. The County argued that the petitioners had not requested the court to direct the prosecutor's office to perform any act and that the treasurer had no duty to act under the circumstances. It noted that the statutory authority relied on by the petitioners related to a trustee's sale, not a treasurer's duties under RCW 84.64.080,

which relates to foreclosure for nonpayment of property taxes. It argued that the treasurer had performed all duties under the correct statute and the petitioners had not established they were entitled to the relief sought. The County noted its motion to dismiss for April 19, 2021.

Prior to then, the petitioners continued their default motion, moved to continue the County's motion to dismiss, moved for sanctions against the County, and filed a declaration and briefing in support of their motions. In her declaration, Ms. Irwin explained why she cited RCW 61.24.080 in her petition. She said she was aware of RCW 84.64.080 in late 2020, but explained she assumed Ferry County would distribute the surplus funds in accordance with the deeds of trust act, chapter 61.24 RCW, because RCW 84.64.080 did not set forth how surplus proceeds are distributed.³

On April 19, the trial court heard argument. It ruled that because the County's motion included pleadings outside the record, it needed to be treated as one for summary judgment, which required providing the petitioners additional time to respond. The court

³ Yet RCW 84.64.080(10) provides, "If the highest amount bid . . . exceeds the minimum bid due . . . the excess must be refunded . . . on application therefor, to the record owner of the property." (Emphasis added.)

Because the surplus funds held by the treasurer belonged to Mr. Green, ILF could have obtained those funds for Mr. Becklin by garnishing them to partly satisfy his judgment. See RCW 6.27.060.

ordered the County's motion to be reset to May 10, 2021, reserved the petitioners' request for sanctions, and ordered the petitioners to file their response 11 days before the reset hearing.

On May 4, 2021, the petitioners filed their response, which was a motion to shorten time and amend their complaint. The proposed amendment sought to add four new claims: the first, a vague claim that the prosecutor had failed to respond to a public records request within five business days⁴; the second, a claim that the statutory extinguishment of ILF's "superior lienholder" interest under RCW 84.64.080 effects a compensable taking; the third, a claim for unjust enrichment against the County, premised on its failure to have a policy of notifying foreclosed property owners that they could apply for surplus funds; and a fourth, a claim that the surplus funds must be distributed in

⁴ On April 16, 2021, the petitioners sent out three requests for production to the County. The request mirrored a typical discovery pleading and was directed to the County by way of e-mail to its prosecuting attorney. In general, the requests sought documents to establish that Ferry County lacked procedures to properly notify foreclosed property owners that they had a right to apply for the surplus funds after sale of their foreclosed property. The request for production contained a sentence, easily overlooked, which stated: "As this request is propounded to a public entity please consider this also a renewed request under the Washington State Public Records Act [PRA] (RCW 42.56)." Clerk's Papers (CP) at 90. Apparently, the County did not respond to the request for documents within five days, which is the PRA claim the petitioners sought to assert.

accordance with the deeds of trust act, chapter 61.24 RCW. The prayer for relief

requested the trial court to issue a

Writ of Mandamus directing the Ferry County Prosecutor to disclose all requested information; and that the County Treasurer identify, and deposit and index the surplus funds from the sale of [Mr. Green's foreclosed parcel]; and that [petitioners] be granted disbursement or [sic] from that surplus in full satisfaction of attorney lien, per RCW 61.24.080(3), as well as the costs of bringing this petition, and additional relief as the Court may deem just.

Clerk's Papers (CP) at 126 (alteration in original).

May 10, 2021 hearing on the County's motion to dismiss

The County first argued against the motion to amend. It argued the PRA was not implicated because the petitioner's requests were not for identifiable public records but rather for legal advice about how to claim surplus funds. It also noted that a mandamus action was inappropriate for a PRA claim because there were other avenues for the petitioners to obtain relief, which were enumerated in the PRA. It objected to the "takings" claim because Mr. Green was the proper party for that claim, and ILF did not represent him and had previously represented an adverse party. It objected to the relief sought of voiding the statute and noted that a writ of mandamus was not the appropriate mechanism for doing this.

The County next addressed its own motion to dismiss. Regarding the prosecutor's office, it noted that the petition did not ask the prosecutor to perform any action. Regarding the treasurer's office, the County argued the treasurer had fully complied with the relevant statute, RCW 84.64.080, and ordering her to comply with a different statute would violate the law.

The petitioners argued that a public records request does not have to be made in writing and that if the prosecutor had simply indicated she could not help her, "we would not be here today." Report of Proceedings (May 10, 2021) (RP) at 53. They asserted the treasurer failed to publish information about how to claim a tax sale surplus and argued that the application process should be "clear and undisputable," and that the process for tax foreclosures in RCW 84.64.080 "treads on the constitutional rights of those who are interested parties" including Mr. Green, as compared to the clear process for deeds of trust foreclosures in RCW 61.24.080. RP at 55-56.

The trial court asked the petitioners if they represented Mr. Green. After confirming they did not, the court indicated that a writ of mandamus was "not the appropriate place to raise a constitutional challenge to the law" and asked the petitioners to address the "clear duty" the treasurer had failed to do. RP at 57.

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The petitioners said they were asking the court to "deposit the surplus and index it in the name of the record owner," the procedure in RCW 61.24.080, "in the absence of a discernable application process under RCW 84.64[.080]." RP at 58. They argued the treasurer's duty to establish an application process was implied in the statute's reference to an application.

The court responded that "an implication is not a clear duty." RP at 66. It further responded:

[A] writ of mandamus is an extraordinary relief and you have not provided me anything to hang my hat on with respect to that.... I don't have anything that says [what] you are asking me to make [the treasurer] do....

I could agree all day long that there's some kind of constitutional issue or the statute is ambiguous, but that's not the standard on a *writ of mandamus*.

RP at 66-67 (alterations in original).

When the petitioners brought up their motion to amend, the court indicated that they did not have standing to bring a constitutional argument on behalf of Mr. Green, the property owner. The court explained that it was granting the County's motion to dismiss "because you flat just don't have a case, Ms. Irwin." RP at 69. A written order was subsequently entered.

That written order provides reasons for the denial of petitioners' motion to shorten time and motion to amend. With respect to the motion to shorten time, the order explains

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that the motion was not properly before the court because the petitioners had failed to obtain an order shortening time prior to the motion. With respect to the requested amendments, the order explains that the amendments would be futile because (1) a challenge to the constitutionality of a statute may not be raised in a mandamus action, (2) the petitioners have no standing to assert the rights of a person who may not have been informed how to apply for surplus funds, and (3) the PRA and takings claims may not be pursued in a mandamus action because there are other plain, speedy, and adequate legal remedies for those claims.

After entry of this order, the petitioners timely appealed.

ANALYSIS

CLAIM TO THE SURPLUS FUNDS

The County contends this appeal is moot because Mr. Green has claimed the tax sale surplus funds. We agree with respect to the claims against the surplus funds. An appeal is moot if the court cannot provide any effective relief. *City of Sequim v. Malkasian*, 157 Wn.2d 251, 258-59, 138 P.3d 943 (2006).

Here, the petitioners requested the court order the treasurer to deposit and index the excess tax foreclosure sale funds with the clerk of the court in accordance with

RCW 61.24.080.⁵ However, while the appeal was pending, Mr. Green applied for and was granted the excess funds from the tax foreclosure sale. Decl. of Kathryn I. Burke at 2, *In re Tax Foreclosure Sale Surplus of 58 Rosehaven Circle*, No. 38318-1-III (Wash. Ct. App. Feb. 18, 2022).⁶ We cannot order the County to do anything with funds not in its possession. We therefore cannot grant the petitioners any effective relief and this appeal is moot with respect to the claims against the surplus funds.

However, we have discretion to decide a moot appeal if it involves a matter of continuing and substantial public interest. *In re Det. of M.W.*, 185 Wn.2d 633, 648, 374 P.3d 1123 (2016). Petitioners argue we should address the constitutional argument raised in their amended petition because people delinquent in paying their property taxes are

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⁵ The petitioners allege a number of errors on appeal, including principally a challenge to the constitutionality of RCW 84.64.080. Nevertheless, the relief they request is for the treasurer to deposit and index the excess tax sale funds with the clerk of the court.

⁶ The petitioners moved to strike this declaration, arguing we cannot consider evidence not in front of the trial court when reviewing a motion for summary judgment. In denying the motion to strike, our commissioner reasoned that the County "did not introduce this additional evidence to support their arguments regarding the merits of the appeal, but instead included the declaration in support of their motion to dismiss the matter as moot." Comm'r's Ruling at 4, *In re Tax Foreclosure Sale Surplus of 58 Rosehaven Circle*, No. 38318-1-III (Wash. Ct. App. Apr. 28, 2022). The petitioners did not move to modify this ruling.

disproportionately poor and unrepresented, and therefore adversely impacted by RCW 84.64.080's lack of clarity.

Petitioners fail to explain why they are entitled to raise this argument. "A litigant cannot assert the legal rights of another person and must have a real interest before bringing a cause of action." *Forbes v. Pierce Cnty.*, 5 Wn. App. 2d 423, 433, 427 P.3d 675 (2018) (citing *Dean v. Lehman*, 143 Wn.2d 12, 18-19, 18 P.3d 523 (2001)). Petitioners are neither poor, unrepresented, nor were they the parcel owner (who might not understand how to claim surplus funds under the statute). We decline to address their constitutional argument.

DENIAL OF MOTION TO SHORTEN TIME AND FILE AMENDED COMPLAINT

The petitioners argue the trial court erred by denying their motion to shorten time and to file an amended complaint. They argue the trial court abused its discretion by not allowing them to add their first and second claims, i.e., the County violated the PRA, and the statutory extinguishment of ILF's "superior lienholder" interest under RCW 84.64.080 effects an unconstitutional taking. *See* Br. of Appellant at 18. These two claims are not rendered moot by the unavailability of the surplus funds. If the petitioners prevail on these claims, a court can provide them effective relief.

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The County does not argue the trial court properly denied the petitioners' motion to shorten time. We therefore do not address that issue.

The decision to grant or deny a motion to amend a pleading under CR 15(a) is a matter of trial court discretion. *Wilson v. Horsley*, 137 Wn.2d 500, 505, 974 P.2d 316 (1999). A trial court does not abuse its discretion by denying a motion to amend if the proposed amendment is futile. *Nw. Animal Rights Network v. State*, 158 Wn. App. 237, 247, 242 P.3d 891 (2010).

An applicant for a writ of mandamus must satisfy three elements before a writ will issue: (1) the party subject to the writ is under a clear duty to act, (2) the petitioner has no plain, speedy and adequate remedy in the ordinary course of law, and (3) the petitioner is beneficially interested. *King Cnty. v. Sorensen*, No. 100731-1, slip op. at 6 (Wash. Sept. 8, 2022), https://www.courts.wa.gov/opinions/pdf/1007311.pdf. An adequate remedy exists if the petitioner has a process by which to seek relief. *Pimentel v. Judges of King County Superior Court*, 197 Wn.2d 365, 373-74, 482 P.3d 906 (2021); *Riddle v. Elofson*, 193 Wn.2d 423, 436, 439 P.3d 647 (2019).

With respect to the petitioners' PRA and takings claims, the trial court concluded that petitioners had an adequate remedy in law because both claims could be pursued in a separate action. The petitioners do not challenge this conclusion. Rather, they argue they

should not be required to pursue a separate action because to do so would result in delay and expense. This argument is unpersuasive. A remedy is not inadequate merely because it is attended with delay, expense, annoyance, or even some hardship. *Pimentel*, 197 Wn.2d at 376; *Burrowes v. Killian*, 195 Wn.2d 350, 356, 459 P.3d 1082 (2020).

We affirm the trial court's denial of the petitioners' motion to amend.

A majority of the panel has determined this opinion will not be printed in the Washington Appellate Reports, but it will be filed for public record pursuant to RCW 2.06.040.

Lawrence-Berrey, J.

WE CONCUR:

Siddoway,

Fearing

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<u>APPENDICE C</u>:

10/13/2022 ORDER DENYING RECONSIDERATION AND MOTION TO PUBLISH.

FILED DECEMBER 13, 2022 In the Office of the Clerk of Court WA State Court of Appeals, Division III

COURT OF APPEALS, DIVISION III, STATE OF WASHINGTON

In the Matter of the Tax Foreclosure Sale Surplus of 58 ROSEHAVEN CIRCLE, REPUBLIC, WASHINGTON (FERRY COUNTY) PARCEL NO. 23824210001000).

IRWIN LAW FIRM, INC., a Washington State Legal Entity, and CHRISTAL OLIVIA IRWIN, Principle Attorney.

Appellants,

v.

FERRY COUNTY TREASURER ROCHELLE RODAK, and FERRY COUNTY PROSECUTOR KATHRYN ISABEL BURKE, No. 38318-1-III

ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND MOTION TO PUBLISH

Respondents.

The court has considered appellants' motion for reconsideration and motion to

publish this court's opinion dated October 20, 2022, and is of the opinion that both

motions should be denied.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that both the motion for reconsideration and the

motion to publish are hereby denied. Christal Irwin was afforded an opportunity to

request oral argument by this court's letter dated July 8, 2022.

PANEL: Judges Lawrence-Berrey, Siddoway, Fearing

FOR THE COURT:

LAUREL SIDDOWAY

27- CHIEF JUDGE

IRWIN LAW FIRM, INC.

January 13, 2023 - 4:12 PM

Transmittal Information

Filed with Court:	Court of Appeals Division III
Appellate Court Case Number:	38318-1
Appellate Court Case Title:	In re: Tax Foreclosure Sale Surplus of 58 Rosehaven Circle, et al
Superior Court Case Number:	20-2-00055-1

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