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SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
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BY RONALD R. CARPENTER

April 26, 2008

To: Clerk of the Supreme Court  
P.O. Box 40929  
Olympia WA. 98504-0929

Re: Comments to Proposed Amendments to CrR3.1, CrRLJ3.1 and CrRLJ4.1 On behalf of the WSBA Committee on Public Defense

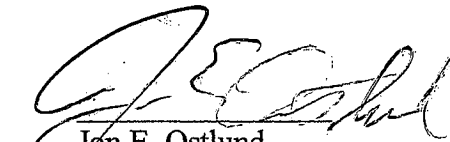
Dear Justices:


The Washington State bar Association Committee on Public Defense requests a thirty day extension on the comment period on the above mentioned court rules in order to be able to provide possible suggestions to the proposed language in CrR3.1. and CrRLJ3.1 and to respond to the comments by the Washington Association of Cities in opposition to proposed rule CrRLJ4.1 which was proposed by the Washington State Bar Association.

The WSBA Committee on Public Defense meets every six weeks and is next scheduled to meet on May 16<sup>th</sup>. We first had an opportunity to review the proposed rules CrR3.1 and CrRLJ3.1 at our April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting and the consensus of the Committee was that we support the proposed rules, that they are consistent with the goals of the Committee and the Washington State Bar Association in assuring competent counsel for all indigent defendants in criminal proceedings, however there were some concerns raised about possible unintended consequences of the rules which might be resolved with slight modifications in the language of the rule. However because of the limited time available at the April meeting (this was the day of the Gideon symposium) we were not able to fully discuss this issue or offer suggestions.

If given time we would discuss the proposed rules at our May meeting and offer to the Court any suggestions we may have by the end of May. We would also like the opportunity to respond to comments to CrRLJ4.1 by the Association of Washington Cities. That proposed rule submitted by the Washington State Bar Association originated from our committee.

Respectfully yours on behalf of the Washington Sate Bar Association Committee on Public Defense:

  
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