



WASHINGTON  
COURTS

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February 10, 2010

Justice Charles Johnson  
Washington State Supreme Court  
P. O. Box 40929  
Olympia, WA 98504-0929

RE: General Rule 34 Comments by April 30, 2010

Dear Justice Johnson,

As president of the Superior Court Judges' Association (SCJA) I am writing about proposed General Rule 34, Waiver of Court and Clerk's Fees and Charges in Civil Matters. As you may recall, the SCJA initially opposed this rule. Since that time, our membership participated in a process to refine the language and intent of the proposal and encourages its passage. The proposal establishes a uniform system for submitting, considering and acting on applications to proceed without payment of filing fees and other costs. Specifically, the new draft rule allows each waiver request to be decided by a judicial officer. Each request remains a function of judicial decision-making on a case by case basis, rather than an executive branch function. It is with pleasure that we now endorse the rule.

Thank you for considering our request. Please let me know if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Tari Eitzen  
President Judge

Cc: Board of Trustees  
Justice Mary Fairhurst  
Judge Mary Yu  
Jim Bamberger  
Nancy Sullins