

Faulk, Camilla

From: Robert Goodwin [rgoodwi@co.pierce.wa.us]
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2011 1:26 PM
To: Faulk, Camilla
Cc: Mary High
Subject: Comment RE: Proposed CrR 4.11

Ms. Faulk,

I am writing in order to comment regarding the Proposed CrR 4.11. I am a public defender working in Pierce County and it is my opinion that this additional rule will enhance the ability of both prosecutors and defenders to address inconsistent statements by witnesses at trial. It is unfortunately quite common for individuals to tell dramatically different stories on the stand compared to those stories they tell investigators. When an investigator is subsequently brought onto the stand in order to dispute those statements the jury is needlessly introduced to another party who must be evaluated and assessed as to his own credibility. Juries may mistrust defense investigators and believe that they are biased as members of the defense team. As a consequence our clients ability to exercise their constitutional rights to confrontation are undermined. CrR 4.11 will in my opinion go a long ways to remedying this serious issue. Thank you for your consideration.

- Robert Vittum Goodwin
WSBA # 42863

Robert V. Goodwin
Department of Assigned Counsel
(253) 798-2381
rgoodwi@co.pierce.wa.us