

November 29, 2011

The Supreme Court Rules Committee
Washington State Supreme Court
PO Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504

= Public Comment on GR 31 and 31A - Access to Administrative Records. =

As an individual who has been involved in the guardianship process, and on behalf of families across this state- I bring my concerns of the proposed changes- in accessing Records. Specifically as it relates to Guardianship Cases. How will this directly effect information gathering and dissemination within the current Guardianship continuum? How will this be applied to the current Guardian - Standards of Practice? How do we move forward towards an open and public process?

I support a public forum for further discussion and detailed clarification on many issues surrounding a fair, just and equitable Judicial System. Specifically the Probate and Guardianship process. A few issues at hand:

- * Transparency.
- * Information gathering. Scales are not balanced without equal access.
- * Prohibitive financial expense. (Average case: 14,000 pages X .25 = \$3500)
- * Denial of records - Grievance Process, more costly Court Fees.
- * Access to family and advocates for 'persons under guardianships'.

With most of the nation's wealth passing through the Probate Division of State Courts,
the grey area of exploiting human rights and the current public climate~

It behooves us to begin a public dialogue, addressing concerns from families across this
nation. The PROBATE COURT can no longer operate behind closed doors.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Karen Mount