

Faulk, Camilla

From: Allison Plavecski [plavecad@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2011 9:46 PM
To: Faulk, Camilla
Subject: in support of stricter confrontation limits in rape cases

Ms. Faulk,

I am writing to you to express my strong support of proposed legislation that allows judges to ask a third party to confront a rape victim directly in trial rather than the defendant in cases where a defendant chooses to defend himself. Many other states, including California, have much stricter laws that allow judges to limit the level of confrontation. It is vital to the fairness of a trial that a victim not be subject to the horror of having to recount the painful details of sexual assault directly to the defendant. With only 10% of sexual assaults actually being reported and fewer than that going to trial, how can the Supreme Court of Washington expect that more rape victims will come forward if they know that they could be directly questioned by their attacker? While it is important to protect the rights of the defendant as well, I believe that their rights can be preserved by submitting their questions to the judge prior, using closed circuit cameras, and using a third party to ask questions. A law that requires the consent of the defendant to use a third party accomplishes nothing.

Thank you for your consideration on this vital issue,

Allison Plavecski

Seattle, WA