

Superior Court of the State of Washington
for Snohomish County

JUDGES

THOMAS J. WYNNE
ANITA L. FARRIS
LINDA C. KRESE
GEORGE N. BOWDEN
ELLEN J. FAIR
MICHAEL T. DOWNES
ERIC Z. LUCAS
DAVID A. KURTZ
BRUCE I. WEISS
GEORGE F.B. APPEL
JOSEPH P. WILSON
RICHARD T. OKRENT
JANICE E. ELLIS
MARYBETH DINGLEDDY
MILLIE M. JUDGE

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COURTHOUSE

M/S #502
3000 Rockefeller Avenue
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(425) 388-3421

PRESIDING JUDGE

MICHAEL T. DOWNES

COURT COMMISSIONERS

LESTER H. STEWART
JACALYN D. BRUDVIK
TRACY G. WAGGONER
SUSAN C. GAER
LEE B. TINNEY

SUPERIOR COURT ADMINISTRATOR
BOB TERWILLIGER

December 1, 2014

The Honorable Barbara A. Madsen
Chief Justice, Washington State Supreme Court
415 12th Ave SW
PO Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504-0929

Dear Chief Justice Madsen:

I am writing to express the support of the Snohomish County Superior Court bench for the adoption of proposed amendments to GR 13. Next year, Lewis County will begin the statewide process of migrating from the 1977 vintage SCOMIS system to the more modern Odyssey Superior Court Case Management system. Snohomish County will be the largest county in the state to implement the Odyssey system. The District and Municipal Courts will follow the Superior Courts in implementing their own new CLJ statewide case management system.

Not all trial courts will be implementing the new statewide case management systems. Pierce County has used their local LINKS system for years. King County Superior Court has opted out of Odyssey implementation, in favor of a locally managed electronic court record system, yet to be determined. Spokane Municipal Court notified JISC in Dec. 2011 of their decision to acquire a local electronic court record system. Seattle Municipal Court currently has its own

electronic court record system and enters only limited data into JIS. Other District and Municipal Courts, including King County District Court, are considering acquiring local electronic court record systems.

Whatever the shortcomings of our current 1970's mainframe systems, there has been an obvious advantage in the statewide sharing of data about people and cases. Our decisions as judges are only as good as the information upon which those decisions are based.

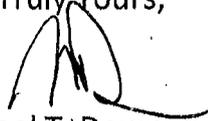
Snohomish County uses the Adult Static Risk Assessment (ASRA) and information contained in JABS to make all release and bail decisions in criminal cases. We review JIS information before approving parenting plans in family law cases. Our judicial officers need to know what other courts outside our county have done with respect to the issuance of DV and other restraining orders on parties appearing before us. Public safety demands that the information in those systems maintained by AOC be both current and accurate.

JISC has adopted data standards at the direction of the legislature and an implementation plan for those standards. The amendments proposed to GR 13 provide for notice and approval from JISC for any locally adopted electronic court record system. The proposed GR 13 amendment also provides for an enforcement mechanism.

Without the amendments proposed to GR 13 there will be no incentive for courts to comply with JISC adopted statewide data standards. Disparate electronic court record systems will not be able to effectively communicate with one another and judicial officers will not have access to the data necessary to make informed decisions on the bench.

The Judges of the Snohomish County Superior Court unanimously urge your approval of the proposed amendments to GR 13.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael T. Downes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael T. Downes
Presiding Judge

Cc:

Hon. Charles Johnson

Hon. Susan Owens

Hon. Mary E. Fairhurst, Chair, Judicial Information System Committee

Hon. Debra L. Stephens

Hon. Charles K. Wiggins

Hon. Steven C. González

Hon. Sheryl Gordon McCloud

Hon. Mary I. Yu

Tracy, Mary

From: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK
Sent: Tuesday, December 30, 2014 4:29 PM
To: Tracy, Mary
Subject: FW: GR 13
Attachments: 20141202105111857.pdf

I believe this should come to you since it has to do with GR 13.

Kris Triboulet
Receptionist/Secretary
Washington State Supreme Court
Kristine.triboulet@courts.wa.gov
360-357-2077

From: Wynne, Thomas [mailto:Thomas.Wynne@snoco.org]
Sent: Tuesday, December 30, 2014 4:27 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK
Subject: GR 13

Letter of support from the 15 Snohomish County Superior Court Judges

Thomas J. Wynne
Judge
Shohomish County Superior Court
(425) 388-3418