From: Sent: To: Subject: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK Thursday, May 01, 2014 8:04 AM FW: Proposed JuCR 1.6, Comment

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From: Lee, Steven [mailto:lees26@seattleu.edu] Sent: Thursday, May 01, 2014 12:00 AM To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK Subject: Proposed JuCR 1.6, Comment

Dear Justice Johnson and Members of the Rules Committee:

I write in support of proposed rule JuCR 1.6, which would govern the use of physical restraints on juveniles in courtrooms. As a Rule 9 intern, through my experiences I have come to appreciate the value of strong, unhindered relationships between counsel and client. Physical restraints on anyone are a significant barrier to communication. But beyond the physical, they erect emotional and psychological barriers to the formation of the attorney-client relationship. This is especially a concern among juveniles and children, who are yet psychologically and developmentally fragile to their social and physical environment.

While restraints may be ordered in some cases, they would not be ordered in a blanket fashion, according to a judge's authority or discretion. Such an approach underscores the value of rehabilitating youth to lead healthy, productive lives. What may appear initially to be a trivial matter is, in fact, a reform that promises to remind juveniles that a damaged past does not necessarily condemn one to a dismal future. If this rule is enacted, juveniles might be reminded that their lives are charged with purpose and with hope.

I respectfully ask you to adopt proposed rule JuCR 1.6. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steven Lee Law Student, SU School of Law