

Tracy, Mary

From: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 3:18 PM
To: Tracy, Mary
Subject: FW: Prosed amendments to GR25 Practice of Law Board

Forwarding

From: Garrow, Janet [mailto:Janet.Garrow@kingcounty.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 3:14 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Cc: Paula Littlewood <PaulaL@wsba.org>
Subject: Prosed amendments to GR25 Practice of Law Board

Dear Madam or Sir,

I understand from reviewing the proposed amendments to GR 25 the Practice of Law Board will no long have an investigatory function. That may be the reason the section entitled "Immunity from Suit" was originally in GR 25 and is proposed to remain in the rule. My comment and question is: Does the Supreme Court, through its rule-making authority have the authority to grant immunity from suit to the Board, staff or complainants for conduct performed in their official duties or complaints made?

I was under the impression only the legislature could grant someone immunity from suit. The fact that someone has immunity becomes a legal defense to a suit. If the Supreme Court does not have the authority to grant immunity, the rule should be amended to delete the immunity provisions. Perhaps the WSBA should be responsible for defense and indemnity of the Board and the staff in their official roles and duties, so people accepting these positions have that assurance.

Regards,

Judge Janet E. Garrow
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