

Tracy, Mary

From: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 8:08 AM
To: Hinchcliffe, Shannon
Cc: Jennings, Cindy; Tracy, Mary
Subject: FW: Comment Regarding Legal Technician Changes

From: Alicia Kelly [mailto:alicia.kelly9@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2018 9:32 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Cc: LTDivision Admin <admin@ltdivision.com>
Subject: Comment Regarding Legal Technician Changes

Re: Regarding Important Changes that permit **Legal Technicians** to Assist Their Clients

To the Supreme Court,

I am receiving assistance from an LLLT division regarding a revision in my parenting plan and child support.

I have already gone through the process of mediation. I was not able to have the LLLT who was assisting me come to mediation. I had to call and ask questions, and the LLLT was not there to speak or negotiate for me. My ex-husband had brought an attorney to represent and speak for him.

I had to do my best in this negotiation process without legal representation physically present, and had to make phone calls to my LLLT to ask for advice. I had to decide what to do while his lawyer was pressuring me to settle on certain terms, when it would have been very helpful to have my LLLT right there to speak for me.

Legal technicians have passed the Bar exam for attorneys in order to practice. They have much knowledge and could well represent their clients. **They should be able to communicate on behalf of their clients, negotiate for them, appear in varying court proceedings and at mediation for them. With their knowledge and expertise, they should be able to assist with major parenting plan modifications, and up to adequate cause hearings.**

We should allow LLLTs these rights to practice under. If it weren't for this new field, my husband and I wouldn't be able to afford any legal help. We would have to face my ex-husband with his attorney, and try to navigate the legal world without any help.

Lawyers are extremely expensive, and many cannot afford to hire one. Many citizens who can't afford them often suffer without any legal representation. The LLLT is a wonderful, more affordable solution. They are very competent, knowledgeable, and well able to assist clients in varying legal issues.

I am asking the Supreme Court to allow these changes as it will benefit many who could otherwise not afford legal assistance and representation.

Sincerely,

Alicia Kelly