

Tracy, Mary

From: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 3:33 PM
To: Hinchcliffe, Shannon
Cc: Jennings, Cindy; Tracy, Mary
Subject: FW: APR 28 LLLT enhancements

From: jujupotterwa@gmail.com [mailto:jujupotterwa@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 3:33 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: APR 28 LLLT enhancements

Dear Supreme Court:

I am a concerned citizen for those who do not have access to affordable legal help.

The proposed enhancements to APR 28 should be enacted. Self-represented clients do not have the money to hire attorneys. The local pro bono attorneys and Northwest Justice Project take on very few divorce clients. The courthouse facilitators help with forms, but cannot give legal advice. People are confused and overwhelmed by the forms and the process. Having the LLLT help them and go with them to court would be welcome by the clients and assist the judges if they have questions.

There is a critical need for having LLLTs provide assistance with non-parental custody actions - either as agreed by the parties or through the adequate cause hearing. Most often it is grandparents, relatives and friends who take on the task of caring for children when the parents cannot. Often the child's caregiver has limited means and cannot navigate the legal system. It is critically important to have someone help the caregivers get legal status to obtain medical and educational decision making for the children in their care.

The court should implement all of the proposed LLLT enhancements.

Thank you for your consideration regarding a solution for this important issue.

Judith Potter