

From: [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)
To: [Tracy, Mary](#)
Subject: FW: SUPPORT - Proposed changes to CrR 3.4 and CrRLJ 3.4
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 10:58:47 AM

From: Jane Hammerstrom [mailto:janeboman@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 10:53 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: SUPPORT - Proposed changes to CrR 3.4 and CrRLJ 3.4

I write to express my support for changes to CrR 3.4 and CrRLJ 3.4 that would reduce the number of required physical appearances for criminal defendants. I support these changes for the reasons expressed by the Washington Defender Association.

As a public defender, I see firsthand the problems that flow from requiring so many personal appearances. My clients are required to miss work (which rarely permits paid time off), miss school, arrange costly childcare or eldercare, etc. Even when they can do this, it is very difficult for many clients to get to court. As a result of suspended drivers' licenses, indigency, and lack of a personal vehicle, many clients cannot appear. It is not uncommon for a client to make arrangements through a friend, but then have the friend fail to follow through. This results in not only a warrant, but additional criminal charges.

These proposed changes will help prevent indigent defendants from being unnecessarily pulled deeper into the criminal justice system.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jane (Boman) Hammerstrom