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**Subject:** FW: General Rule 38  
**Date:** Thursday, January 30, 2020 1:13:54 PM

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**From:** Beth Sattler [mailto:bsattler149@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 30, 2020 1:02 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Subject:** General Rule 38

Beth Sattler  
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January 28, 2020

Supreme Court Justices  
Olympia, Washington  
[supreme@courts.wa.gov](mailto:supreme@courts.wa.gov)  
General Rule 38

Dear Supreme Court Justices,

My name is Beth Sattler. I live in East Wenatchee and I am a member of Wenatchee for Immigrant Justice. We are proud to be part of the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network.

As a member of both groups, I have had the privilege of accompanying some of our undocumented immigrant community members to their court appearances in Ephrata, Grant County, Washington. For this discussion, I will refer to the people that we accompany to court as community members.

Because there have been so many “arrests” both inside and outside of the Ephrata Courthouse, members of the immigrant community have been afraid to be there. Can you imagine having to decide who will be responsible for your children if you are detained, to make legal arrangements for the emergency custody of your kids, to be sure that your financial documents and accounts are in order and can be accessed on your behalf, that your house and car keys are accessible to others.... just to show up at court? Can you imagine showing up at court for a traffic violation, or to be a witness for a crime, or for a marriage license, or to get an order of protection and to fear that you will disappear into the vast and complicated detention pipeline?

This is not just community hysteria. This is not hyperbole. These “arrests” are

happening in our Washington Courts. Members of our immigrant communities who need to access our courts are afraid.

There are many documented accounts of justice denied in Washington. I will recount one now. We were accompanying a young woman to Ephrata for the second time. We received word that ICE/CBP were in the courthouse. We left the community member at our meeting place and went to the courthouse to document their presence. After asking a few people, it was clear that two plainclothes agents were placed outside of the courtroom on the third floor.

We went outside and spoke to an attorney who also verified the presence of ICE/CBP inside of the courthouse. As we spoke to the attorney, a man was “arrested” by two other plainclothes agents exiting the courthouse down the front steps. There were additional agents involved in the arrest.

The woman we were escorting to court that morning was told to go home. She was unable to access the justice system. ICE/CPB in the courthouse made this unsafe. Being detained and possibly deported is too high a price to pay for a traffic violation, especially if the penalty comes without due process of law.

The man who was handcuffed and taken away was not shown a warrant at the time of his arrest. This was documented by our team on video.

Our community member did not attend her hearing. There may have been a bench warrant issued.

The “arrest” by ICE/CBP happened for all to see. Starting at the front steps of one of your courthouses. Causing fear. Keeping others from accessing our justice system.

I am sure that you have a stack of stories just like this one on your desks. I am also sure that these have been carefully documented. I imagine that you became judges because you have a passion for justice. How can you allow the Washington court system to be an extension of the immigration enforcement pipeline? ICE and CBP must be stopped from patrolling the courthouse which is causing legitimate fear in the immigrant communities of Washington. This fear is resulting a reluctance to participate in the judicial process that we are all entitled to.

Washington courthouses must be safe places to attend a hearing, apply for a license, be a witness, get an order of protection, exercise one’s Constitutional rights...

Please make me proud to be a Washingtonian and adopt Rule 38.

Beth F. Sattler

