Local Mandatory Arbitration Rule 3.1
QUALIFICATIONS OF ARBITRATORS

(a) Arbitration Panel. There shall be a panel of arbitrators in such numbers as the administrative committee may from time to time determine. A person desiring to serve as an arbitrator shall complete an information sheet on the form prescribed by the Court. A list showing the names of arbitrators available to hear cases and the information sheets will be available for public inspection in the court administrator's office. The oath of office on the form prescribed by the Court must be completed and filed prior to an applicant being placed on the panel.

(b) Qualification. Unless otherwise stipulated, an arbitrator must be a member of the Washington State Bar for 5 years or a retired judge.

(c) Refusal; Disqualification. The appointment of an arbitrator is subject to the right of that person to refuse to serve. An arbitrator must notify the court administrator within three court days of receipt of the notice of appointment if refusing to serve or if any cause exists for the arbitrator's disqualification from the case upon any of the grounds of interest, relationship, bias or prejudice set forth in CJC Canon 3(c) governing the disqualification of Judges. If disqualified, the arbitrator must immediately return all materials in a case to the court administrator. A party may challenge the qualifications of an arbitrator by motion to the Court if the motion is made within 10 court days of the appointment of the arbitrator.

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