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CLERK SUPREME COURT FOR THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

STATE OF WASHINGTON, Respondent,)	No. 103209-9
•)	PETITIONER'S
v.)	STATEMENT OF
)	ADDITIONAL
JACOB DIMAS,)	AUTHORITIES
Petitioner)	(RAP 10.8)

In *State v. Schlenker*, __P.3d__, 2024 WL 3713771 (2024), the Court of Appeals addressed a person's right to counsel when he appeared for numerous pretrial hearings from jail, separated from his attorney, without advance protocols for confidential communication with counsel. The same error occurred in Mr. Dimas's case.¹

Sclenker expressly disagreed with Division Two's analysis of this same error in this case. *Id.* at 11 (citing State v. Dimas, 30 Wn. App. 2d 213, 544 P.3d 597 (2024)). It ruled

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¹ Pet. for Review, at 13-17.

Dimas was wrong when it analyzed the manifest nature of the constitutional error because it improperly "shifted the burden to Dimas to show" that his inability to confer with counsel would have made a concrete difference at trial. *Id.* at *11.

In finding constitutional error, *Schlenker* held the trial court is obligated to "make sure that attorneys and clients have the opportunity to engage in private consultation" and must "provide guidance to the accused and his counsel about how to confer." *Id.* at 7. Although Mr. Schlenker objected, the Court of Appeals ruled that courts "must not place an unreasonable expectation on a defendant to interrupt a proceeding to assert his right to confer with counsel." *Id.*

Schlenker further recognized that "the fundamental right to assistance of counsel could not be lost without a specific waiver rather than the failure to object." *Id.* at *10. Therefore,

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Washington Appellate Project 1511 Third Avenue, Suite 610 Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 587-2711 defendants may "raise [the] inability to confer with counsel for the first time on appeal. *Id*.

Like *Schlenker*, the trial court did not advise Mr. Dimas before any of his substantive pretrial hearings that he had the right to confidentially communicate with counsel at any time. It did not "make sure" they "ha[d] the opportunity to engage in private consultation." *Id.* It did not "provide guidance ... about how to confer privately." *Id.* Mr. Dimas did not "specific[ally] waive[]" his fundamental right to the assistance of counsel. *Id.* at 10.

Schlenker explicitly conflicts with *Dimas* and explains the Court of Appeals' flawed reasoning in Mr. Dimas' case, highlighting the need for this Court's review. RAP 13.4(b)(2).

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Washington Appellate Project 1511 Third Avenue, Suite 610 Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 587-2711 Counsel certifies this pleading complies with RAP 18.17 and contains 342 words.

DATED this 23rd day of August 2024.

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DECLARATION OF FILING AND MAILING OR DELIVERY

The undersigned certifies under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that on the below date the original of the document to which this declaration is affixed/attached was filed in the **Washington State Supreme Court** under **Case No. 103209-9** and a true copy was mailed with first-class postage prepaid or otherwise caused to be delivered to the following attorney(s) or party/parties of record at their regular office or residence address as listed on ACORDS:

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 Prosecuting Attorney Clark County
- Attorney for other party

TREVOR O'HARA, Legal Assistant Washington Appellate Project Date: August 23, 2024

WASHINGTON APPELLATE PROJECT

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