Kitsap Co. Public Defense **Clarke W. Tibbits,** ***Public Defender Supervisor***

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March 14, 2014

JISC Data Dissemination Committee

RE: KCPD's expanded access to JIS Records

Dear Sir or Madam,

Public Defense is directed by RCW 10.101.050 to report all expenditures for public defense services as well case statistics and attorney caseloads for each calendar year.

We are seeking access to the PER screen in JIS and case type 7's in SCOMIS.

One of the duties of the Kitsap County Public Defense (KCPD) office manager is to keep track of cases assigned to each contract attorney by entering the case information into our case management system, and in turn compensate each attorney/firm for those cases assigned. Our office takes no juvenile cases. All juvenile cases are contracted to five attorneys/firms. Kitsap County Juvenile Court appoints all attorneys for juvenile cases.

Our contract attorneys are also compensated for hearing types which they were previously appointed, such as contempt hearings. Our contract attorneys reconcile each month for cases that they appeared on or were assigned the previous month. The office manager does not have access to case type 7's in SCOMIS, which is part of the juvenile billing. The office manager must reconcile with our attorney's in order for them to be compensated. If she is unable to view the docket, she may be paying the attorney for a hearing that did not occur. This will also produce inaccurate reports that we must submit to OPD every year.

We are also requesting access to the PER screen in JIS so the office manager may enter client identifiers into our case management system. Without that information, she is entering cases with minimal data (name only) and she is unable to link our client's cases because she does not have enough identifiers. This will cause an extremely disjointed database.

I understand that the JIS Data Dissemination Committee has the authority to grant access to the screens needed to properly compensate our contract attorneys, to generate accurate case counts for OPD, and to properly maintain our case management system.

Thank you for your consideration. We would prefer to appear by telephone at the next scheduled meeting.

Sincerely,

Clarke W. Tibbits
Public Defense Supervisor
Kitsap County Public Defense