ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

The following information is necessary for us to process your request for data from the Judicial Information System (JIS). Please complete this form and return it to:

Data Dissemination Administrator
Office of the Administrator for the Courts
PO Box 41170
Olympia, WA 98504-1170
fax: 360-956-5700
e-mail: dda@courts.wa.gov

Your request is subject to approval under the provisions of JISCR 15, the JIS Data Dissemination Policy, and the local Data Dissemination Policy and Procedures. Upon approval, the request will be forwarded to a programmer who will examine it, estimate the cost, and then contact you to provide the estimated cost and confirm the request. There is a charge for such reports as governed by JIS Committee Policy.

Name: Professor Matthew Desmond (contact: Gillian Slee, research assistant)

Agency or Company: Harvard University

E-Mail Address: mdesmond@fas.harvard.edu; gillianslee@college.harvard.edu

Address: 640 William James Hall, 33 Kirkland Street

City: Cambridge State: MA Postal Code: 02138

Day or Work Phone (with area code): 617-495-4751 Fax No. (with area code): 617-496-5794
Gillian Slee: 949-235-6541

Information Requested (please describe in detail and attach additional pages as necessary):

We are requesting Unlawful Detainer court records as well as Writ of Restitution records in Washington State, so described under Title 59 of the RCW. We are seeking the inclusion of the following information: name of defendants/tenants, date (preferably the date of the judgment), address (of the defendants or tenants), and court outcome (dismissal, eviction judgment). We are also interested in any other information attached to eviction cases that might be available, such as the name and address of plaintiffs/ landlords; money judgment amounts; and data on whether landlords and tenants were represented by legal counsel. We would like the data going as far back as possible, and up to December 31, 2015.

What will the information be used for?

Although housing costs have soared in recent years, basic policy-relevant questions about eviction remain unanswered. We do not have a national estimate of the prevalence of eviction in America, nor do we know how evictions matter to communities and the influence landlord-tenant laws have on eviction rates. This study is designed to answer those questions, informing law and public policy related to affordable housing and displacement. Accordingly, we are gathering court data from all around the country to measure the prevalence of eviction or unlawful detainers. (Continued on the final page)

To whom will the data be disseminated?

The raw, identifying data will be used by our research team to run statistical analysis on the prevalence and consequences of eviction. Analysis of these data will be used for publication, but no identifying information (i.e. names, street-level addresses) will be disseminated.

If this information concerns a named individual, please give necessary identifying information (i.e. date of birth, driver's license number, most current address etc.):

We request the addresses of the parties / address of the eviction or unlawful detainer. We also request the address to which the Writ of Restitution was delivered. In addition, we are seeking the inclusion of the names of defendants/tenants (as well as plaintiff/ landlords if available). The inclusion of names and addresses allow us to merge the information with our other databases. The addresses allow us to geo-code the cases to see which kinds of neighborhoods the evictions took place in.

Date information is needed: As soon as processing allows.

The following fees are applied to information requests that require generation of a report from JIS. Fees do *not* include printed copies of electronic documents such as dockets or screen prints.

Administrative Fee	$25.00 / report
Evaluation/Research/Programming	$40.00 / hour
JIS System Run Time (two-minute minimum)	$10.00 / minute or portion thereof
Materials:	$ 1.00 / page
	$12.00 / compact disc

Medium Requested:
Paper ($1.00/page, computer generated)
CD ($12.00/each)
E-mail - electronic file sent as an attachment

I, the undersigned:

- **Agree to use and distribute the information only as provided in the above referenced statement of intended use;**
- **Agree not to use for commercial purposes (Data Dissemination Policy IIIA(5);**
- **Agree to take reasonable precautions to prevent disclosure of information beyond the above referenced statement of intended use;**
- **Agree to pay, unless payment is waived, the cost upon fulfillment of the request and receipt of an invoice from the Office of the Administrator for the Courts;**
- **Understand that the Office of the Administrator for the Courts makes no representation as to the accuracy and completeness of the data except for court purposes and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Office of the Administrator for the Courts from any claims for damages arising from applicant's use and distribution of the information; and**
- **Certify, under penalty of law, that all the information supplied above is true and a complete description.**

Signature of Requestor

4 August 2016

Date

Typed name will be accepted as signature when document is submitted electronically.

Please use this page for more detailed responses or comments.

Continued: Information Requested:
We would like to retrieve all unlawful detainer or eviction cases under Title 59 of the RCW. If you require further detail, we believe these are filed under RCW 59.12, 59.16, 59.18, and 59.20.

The IRB at Harvard determined that this study was exempt from further review and classified the research information security as Level 2 Data. According to this determination, all raw data retrieved from Washington will be stored on secure and encrypted servers, accessible only to our research team. We are happy to provide further documentation regarding our IRB approval and information on how we will protect these data if desired.

Continued: "What Will the Information Be Used For?":

We also hope to use these data to answer three research questions:
(1) What is the prevalence of eviction in the United States, and how does it vary geographically?
(2) What impact, if any, do eviction rates have on local communities?
(3) How do certain landlord-tenant laws affect a municipality's eviction rate?