From: Petersen, Robert (Burns) [mailto:Robert.Petersen@kingcounty.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 8:25 PM
To: Happold, Stephanie <Stephanie.Happold@courts.wa.gov>
Cc: Youngcourt, Lorinda <Lorinda.Youngcourt@kingcounty.gov>; Mikkelsen, Floris <Floris.Mikkelsen@kingcounty.gov>; Petersen, Robert (Burns) <Robert.Petersen@kingcounty.gov>
Subject: Support for JABS Access for Private Investigators

King County
Department of
PUBLIC DEFENSE
Upholding the Constitution, one client at a time.
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Dear Stephanie-

I am the Director of Assigned Counsel with the King County - Department of Public Defense (DPD) which means I oversee our panel of assigned counsel attorneys. These are private attorneys who handle public defense cases that cannot be handled in-house due to a conflict of interest or other demands. As you may recall we worked together in coordinating JABS access for our Assigned Counsel attorneys at DPD, which has worked exceedingly well in all respects. We are now seeking to expand JABS access to include private investigators working on assigned cases.

We have discussed this issue with our director, Lorinda Youngcourt, and other member of our leadership team. We support JABS access for private investigators, thereby granting the same access to information provided our staff investigators at DPD. As you know JABS is superior to other resources as far as ease of use and immediate access to useful information. We currently have approximately 50 private investigators working our assigned counsel cases and want them to have the necessary tools to provide quality indigent defense. This results in increased efficiencies and quality of work.

We understand this issue is being considered at the June 23rd meeting of the Data Dissemination Committee and want your group to know of our support of this measure. It's a significant benefit and cost saving for all.

Regards,

Burns

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