

Faulk, Camilla

From: Donald E. Elliott [don.elliott@stokeslaw.com]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2007 3:09 PM
To: Faulk, Camilla
Subject: Safeguarding Property

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed Rule 1.15A on Safeguarding Property.

I prefer the rule to require lawyers to report funds only, not documents such as deeds or wills.

For recorded deeds, a lawyer may record a deed in King County with the King County Recorder in connection with a probate administration, a dissolution of marriage, or a real estate closing. Upon submitting a deed for recording, the King County Recorder returns the original deed to the lawyer with a sticker showing the recording number after a few minutes. The King County Recorder keeps an electronic copy of the original deed, rendering the original deed interesting, but not terribly important.

Any interested party can find deeds on-line and can obtain certified copies from the King County Recorder. Snohomish County and Pierce County appear to operate similarly to King County.

For a lawyer to advise a client that he/she holds and original, recorded deed, is a burden to the lawyer while rendering the client almost nothing.

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