

Faulk, Camilla

From: Compaan, Al [Compaan@ci.edmonds.wa.us]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2011 9:55 AM
To: Faulk, Camilla
Subject: CrR 4.11 Recording Witness Interviews

Ms. Faulk:

Please consider this e-mail as my statement to the Court in opposition to the proposed CrR 4.11. I strongly concur with statements in opposition already submitted by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, as well as by the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys.

I support law enforcement's ability to conduct its investigations in a legal and ethical manner based on sound, professional judgment. It is not appropriate, nor is it helpful in my opinion, to mandate audio recordings of witness interviews. Audio recordings are not legally required, nor are they procedurally required, for a successful interview to take place. The proposed rule would not allow a witness to object to audio recording of an interview. The proposed rule would remove law enforcement's discretion to record, or not to record, a given interview. As the Court is well aware, law enforcement utilizes audio recording of interviews with regularity. However, the decision to record, or not to record, should be left up to the individual law enforcement officer and to the witness subject to interview.

Thank you for considering my comments in opposition to the proposed CrR 4.11.

Al Compaan, Chief of Police

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