

Faulk, Camilla

From: Pat Valerio (ACA) [Pat.Valerio@acapd.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 12:14 PM
To: Faulk, Camilla
Subject: Support of change in CrR 4.11

Hello,

I am the Seattle felony unit supervisor for ACA , a public defense firm. I support the change to allow recording of witness interviews. There can be no down side to accuracy. I've conducted and observed trials where witnesses have recanted statements made during defense interviews. Without a recording investigators had to be put on the stand to testify to what occurred during the interview. The jury then had to decide what really happened based on witness credibility. An actual recording would have eliminated this as whatever occurred would have been recorded for all to hear.

All kinds of pressure are put on witnesses during the course of a criminal proceeding. For whatever reason stories do often change and evolve over time. In fairness to the accused and others these should be clearly documented by recoding witness interviews.

Thank you,
Pat Valerio