

Faulk, Camilla

From: Rea Culwell [rculwell@waprosecutors.org]
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2012 3:43 PM
To: Faulk, Camilla
Subject: CrR 4.6 Depositions

Dear Justices,

Our justice system is for fact finding. To get to the truth of what has happened. In a case where a person has been sexually assaulted, that person has to not only share what happened to him/her to a law enforcement officer, but also to a defense attorney at an interview and later at trial under oath to a jury and to the public. All of this is what should happen, a trial is about getting to the truth. The media in our country has been very good about not video taping sexual assault victims and in the vast majority of cases, not naming a sexual assault victim, even when it is public record. If depositions of sexual assault victims are ordered, there is nothing to stop anyone from getting a copy of that video and audio recording and spreading it to everyone, further damaging the victim. This rule will have a chilling affect on future crime victims.

I urge you to weigh the balance between, if any, any minimal procedural advantage with a video/audio recorded statement over the victim's statement to law enforcement and interview with defense attorneys and the potential harm to victims and the justice system.

thanks,
Rea

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