

Faulk, Camilla

To: Faulk, Camilla
Subject: RE: Proposed GR 31A

From: Sandra Sage [<mailto:sages@co.thurston.wa.us>]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2011 8:32 AM
To: Faulk, Camilla
Subject: Proposed GR 31A

Ms. Faulk: I am a paralegal within the Civil Division of Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's office. I understand why the suggested rule for production of a court's administrative records has been proposed. I believe that before this rule is approved that serious consideration needs to be given to the amount of time that will necessarily have to be dedicated by court staff to respond to records requests. State and local governments spend more time than you can imagine responding to records requests. The necessary staff cuts in recent years has only exacerbated this issue.

I know the courts' workloads are already overwhelming. The court staff in Thurston County is experienced and professional and, in my opinion, no one works harder than they do. And they never get caught up. I anticipate that time spent on responding to records requests will impact their ability to do the work that needs to be done to keep cases marching forward.

I believe in ensuring that the public has access to records held by state and local governments, which lets them know that government is doing its job and how their doing it. I, however, want to make sure that serious consideration is given to the very real impact on staff time.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns.

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