



**King County
District Court
Office of the Presiding Judge**

W1034 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98104
Telephone: (206) 477-1720
Fax: (206) 296-0596

**The Honorable Donna Tucker
Chief Presiding Judge**

**Othniel Palomino
Chief Administrative Officer**

January 23, 2015

The Honorable Chief Justice Barbara A. Madsen
Chief Justice, Washington State Supreme Court
Washington State Supreme Court
PO Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504-0929

RE: JISC Rule 13- Electronic Court Records System

Dear Chief Justice Barbara A. Madsen,

On behalf of the King County District Court thank you for the opportunity to comment upon the new proposed JISC Rule 13.

The King County District Court respectfully urges you to support the ability of all courts to provide quality, efficient and cost effective court services to their constituents through the use of innovation and current technologies. We urge you not to pass rule JISC 13 due to our concerns it will create further barriers to courts in providing services beyond the limited functionality of the existing JIS system.

In the past several months, I have had the opportunity to talk to people with positions on both sides of the implementation of rule JISC 13. During these conversations, regardless of whether or not the individual was supportive or opposed to the implementation of the rule, they all appeared to agree on three things: (1) There is a need and everyone supports the exchange of important data between every court in Washington; (2) there is an urgent need for improved case management systems for all trial courts in Washington; and (3) the exchange of data between the different trial court case management systems can only be accomplished if there are appropriate and understandable data standards and a working system, provided by AOC, for the exchange of that data.

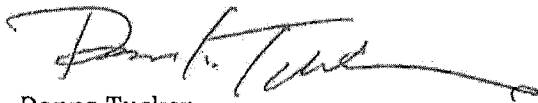
January 23, 2015
Letter to Chief Justice Barbara A. Madsen
RE: JISC Rule 13- Electronic Court Records System
Page 1 of 2

Justice Fairhurst's letter to Pierce County Superior Court dated December 14, 2011 emphasized this point when she wrote:

"It was anticipated that Pierce County Superior Court would likely not adopt the new system and would continue to use LINX. That is the reason why the Data Exchange effort is so critically important and continues to be JISC'S highest priority initiative. Regardless of what system a court uses, all courts need to be able to exchange their data."

KCDC is concerned that all the courts of limited jurisdiction subject to this new proposed rule, will suffer with the existing problems and limitations of DISCIS for years to come. There is currently no funding for a new state-wide system for courts of limited jurisdiction. We are concerned about the likelihood the legislature will provide any funding for courts of limited jurisdiction until after the successful implementation of the current Superior Court system. When contrasted with a new COTS CMS, the problems and limitations of Washington's 34-year-old system result in unnecessary costly management and processing of cases in the highest volume courts in the state. I know that even the small courts are in the process of seeking to purchase individual modules of new COTS CMS to help them process case files. All CLJ Courts large and small need to be able to efficiently and effectively continue to upgrade their systems to meet the needs of their constituents within the budget limitations that we all face. Our fear is that rule JISC 13 will have unnecessary impact upon the quality and costs of providing court services. We believe that the JISC can craft a solution and rule that will support and work for all courts in the State of Washington.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna Tucker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Donna Tucker
Chief Presiding Judge
King County District Court

Tracy, Mary

From: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 12:25 PM
To: Tracy, Mary
Subject: FW: King County District Court Letter to Chief Justice Madsen RE: JISC Rule 13
Attachments: KCDC Letter to Chief Justice Madsen RE- JISC RULE 13.pdf

From: Ramirez, Stephanie [mailto:Stephanie.Ramirez@kingcounty.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 12:24 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK
Subject: King County District Court Letter to Chief Justice Madsen RE: JISC Rule 13

Good afternoon,

Please find the attached letter to Chief Justice Madsen.

Thank you,

Stephanie Ramirez
Confidential Administrative Assistant
King County District Court
516 3rd Avenue, W-1034
Seattle, Washington 98104
206.477.1694