

January 20, 2015

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

Dear Justice Madsen:

I have had a strong interest in court technology for many years and have followed the innovations made by Superior Court. When I served in the State House of Representatives nearly 20 years ago, I was instrumental in getting some of the first computers for the court and I was on the original committee for JIN. The innovations made by the Court have allowed us to serve the public better, and have allowed the Court to absorb budget cuts because the use of technology has created efficiencies.

The King County Council decided to allocate capital funds during the last budget cycle, in a tight budget year, to enable the Court to replace SCOMIS along with its electronic court record system, which is on its last legs. The Council did so because it was clear that King County would be constrained in what services they could offer in the near future as well as more long term. The statewide case management system being built by Tyler would have effectively ended the Court's ability to innovate in real time as well as to better serve our constituents (e.g. bringing video hearings and e-orders to the ITA Court would not have been possible were the Court using Tyler, or at least not anytime soon).

We believed that replacing SCOMIS soon would save FTEs because it would be so much more efficient than a 34-year-old mainframe system. **Moreover, it is most cost effective to build the new electronic record system on the SCOMIS replacement system than to build it on SCOMIS and then redo it when a new system is in place in several years.** Because District Court will also be developing a new system, as well as the jail and public defense, we now have the opportunity to create an internal King County hub – leading to even greater efficiency by only entering data into the system once rather than into several separate systems.

I'm aware that the proposed rule, JISCR 13, and data standards adopted by JISC would require Superior Court to **hire a lot of data entry people to enter data in SCOMIS** while at the same time operating the new system that is being built. This is completely unacceptable - as we cannot justify hiring data entry people at the same time public health nurses are being laid off. In our highly technological area in 2015 there should be an electronic mechanism to send King County data to the AOC. The Council cannot afford to allocate money for double data entry.

Due to King County's population, it does have a large budget but there is also a greater volume of needs here. Each year our General Fund budget is more constrained and that drives us to pursue efficiencies relentlessly. King County wants to share its data with other county courts and local courts of limited

jurisdiction. However, the County cannot afford to turn back the clock on the efficiency gains we have made due to our innovative use of technology.

**Please do not support the passage of JISCR 13 and instead focus on developing electronic data exchange** between courts that are outside the statewide system and those that are inside it.

Sincerely,

Kathy Lambert  
King County Councilmember  
District 3

## Tracy, Mary

---

**From:** Hinchcliffe, Shannon  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 22, 2015 10:12 AM  
**To:** Tracy, Mary  
**Subject:** FW: Lambert concerns on Court Issue FYI  
**Attachments:** Rule 13 Letter to Supreme Court 01 20 15 Madsen.pdf

This is a comment for JISCR 13 – thanks.

**Shannon Hinchcliffe** | Office of Legal Services and Appellate Court Support  
Administrative Office of the Courts | P.O. Box 41174 | Olympia, WA 98504-1170  
☎ (360) 357-2124 | ✉ [shannon.hinchcliffe@courts.wa.gov](mailto:shannon.hinchcliffe@courts.wa.gov) | 🌐 [www.courts.wa.gov](http://www.courts.wa.gov)

**From:** Jennings, Cindy  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 22, 2015 9:08 AM  
**To:** Hinchcliffe, Shannon  
**Subject:** FW: Lambert concerns on Court Issue FYI

FYI.

**From:** Lambert, Kathy [<mailto:Kathy.Lambert@kingcounty.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 21, 2015 4:45 PM  
**To:** Johnson, Justice Charles W.  
**Subject:** Lambert concerns on Court Issue FYI

Dear Justice Johnson,

Hope you are having a great start to your year!

I have attached my letter in response to Rule 13. You will be receiving a hard copy too.

I believe that this proposed Rule 13 would effectively limit counties from having the ability to deal with their emerging as well as continued technology needs .

In addition, I believe that the priority should be developing a hub system so all counties can share their criminal justice information.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Thanks and Best Wishes,

Kathy

**Kathy Lambert**  
King County Council, District 3  
516 Third Ave, Room 1200 | Seattle, WA 98104  
206.477.1003

*This email and any response to it constitute a public record and may be subject to public disclosure.*