
From:
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2014 3:59 PM
To:
Subject: FW: Comments on Proposed Changes to GR15

From: Dave Peterson [DPeterso@co.kitsap.wa.us]
Sent: Friday, March 28, 2014 8:30 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on Proposed Changes to GR15

My comments are only as to the proposed GR15 changes:

The proposal to make the Orders Sealing remain in effect for only a set period of time is extremely problematic for the Clerk. We have no way to track these cases and unseal them. Additionally, it should not be the Clerk's responsibility.

The order should be permanent with language included that the order is subject to review upon motion to the Court.

As a less desirable fallback position; the order could remain sealed until a specific date. However unsealing should only occur upon written request for disclosure after that date.

I don't believe the Clerks should be tasked with determining whether or not there is "harm" caused by disclosure regardless of how long it has been. Circumstances change and to ask the court to foresee the future and make a determination of no future potential for harm is not reasonable.

This does not mean that a person who has a desire to know can never find out what is in the case, only that a Court will always make that decision based upon **current facts**.

Court order sealing and a court order to unseal!

As to the juvenile offender cases, I truly believe the community, the juveniles and the juvenile justice system would all be better served by returning to the practice of all case type 8 cases being sealed and making a provision for the Court to "unseal" a specific case based on the appropriate findings within the juvenile statute.

Dave Peterson, Kitsap County Clerk