

National Court Reporters Association 12030 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 400 Reston, VA 20191-3484 800-272-NCRA (6272) Fax: 703-391-0629 www.ncra.org

August 23, 2016

Washington State Capitol Sid Snyder Avenue, SW Olympia, WA 98504

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the National Court Reporters Association and the 16,000 stenographic court reporters, captioners, and CART providers that we represent, I am writing in support of the proposed changes to the Washington Civil Rules. These changes would ensure the equitable use of court reporting services, as well as prevent unethical practices concerning deposition transcription.

These proposed rule changes will serve to ensure the neutrality and integrity of the court reporter by protecting the profession from even the appearance of impropriety. These changes require courts to have the option to offer court reporting services, and on equal terms to all parties and in a transparent and aboveboard manner, things that NCRA strongly supports.

Court reporters should not be entering into arrangements that could lead any party to a proceeding to believe that court reporters are anything but a neutral guardian of the record. These proposed rule changes will do just that by requiring adherence to standards of ethics and increasing the transparency by which all court reporters are hired in a deposition setting.

NCRA commends the state of Washington for considering these changes, and we fully support the proposed changes to the Civil Rules. If you have any questions, contact me directly at <u>mnelson@ncra.org</u>, or contact States Government Relations Manager Matthew Barusch at <u>mbarusch@ncra.org</u>.

Sincerely,

Michael & Jak

Michael S. Nelson, CAE Executive Director and CEO

Tracy, Mary

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK Tuesday, August 23, 2016 4:21 PM Tracy, Mary FW: WA Letter of Support NCRA Letter of Support - WA.PDF

Supreme Court Clerk's Office

Please note that any pleading filed as an attachment to e-mail will be treated as the original. Therefore, if a filing is by e-mail attachment, it is not necessary to mail to the court the original of the document.

Questions about the Supreme Court Clerk's Office? Check out our website: http://www.courts.wa.gov/appellate_trial_courts/supreme/clerks/

Looking for the Rules of Appellate Procedure? Here's a link to them: <u>http://www.courts.wa.gov/court_rules/?fa=court_rules.list&group=app&set=RAP</u>

Searching for information about a case? Case search options can be found here: <u>http://dw.courts.wa.gov/</u>

From: Sean Lykken [mailto:sean@centralcourtreporting.com] Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 4:07 PM To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV> Subject: FW: WA Letter of Support

From: phyllis@centralcourtreporting.com [mailto:phyllis@centralcourtreporting.com] Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 3:59 PM To: 'Sean Lykken' Subject: FW: WA Letter of Support

I am forwarding this for whatever weight the Court would like to give to it. Best.

Phyllis Craver Lykken, RPR, CLR, CCR No. 2423

Central Court Reporting & Video

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From: Matthew Barusch [mailto:mbarusch@ncra.org] Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 12:21 PM To: phyllis@centralcourtreporting.com Subject: WA Letter of Support

Phyllis,

Attached you will find the letter of support for the proposed rules changes from NCRA. The physical copy should arrive at your office in the next day or so. Again, my apologies for the lateness of their arrival. Please let me know if I can do anything else for you. Thank you.

Matthew R. Barusch

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