

## Tracy, Mary

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**From:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 15, 2016 2:37 PM  
**To:** Tracy, Mary  
**Subject:** FW: Comment in re: Proposed Rule Change - GR 17 Facsimile Transmission

**From:** Ruth Gordon [mailto:RGordon@co.jefferson.wa.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2016 3:18 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Cc:** (bchristensen@co.clallam.wa.us) <bchristensen@co.clallam.wa.us>; Fitzgerald, Timothy W. <TFITZGERALD@spokanecounty.org>; 'Josie Delvin (Benton County)' (josie.delvin@co.benton.wa.us) <josie.delvin@co.benton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Comment in re: Proposed Rule Change - GR 17 Facsimile Transmission

To the Honorable Members of the Rules Committee, Greetings.

I am embarrassed to be writing to you now to request a further change to a rule which I personally reviewed through a multiple meeting cycle while serving on a sub-committee of the Court Management Council, but that is exactly what I am doing now.

Please note that the original language of GR 17 reads as follows:

(4) Clerks may charge reasonable fees to be established by the Office of the Administrator for the Courts, for receiving, collating, and verifying fax transmissions.

The suggested change as it shows online is:

4) Clerks may charge reasonable fees to be established by the Administrative Office of the Courts, for receiving, collating, and verifying fax transmissions.

But in real life the fee for FAX filing is set actually in statute, at RCW 36.18.016(20), as follows:

"A service fee of five dollars for the first page and one dollar for each additional page must be charged for receiving faxed documents, pursuant to Washington state rules of court, general rule 17."

I am writing to respectfully suggest that, given that this fee has been set by the Legislature long ago, apparently to no ill effect, and because FAX filing as a method of filing is already passing from use, maybe the thing to do could be to change subsection 4 to read:

4) Clerks may charge reasonable fees, as established in statute, for receiving, collating, and verifying fax transmissions.

I bring this up only because it does help the public and the courts when actual practice, court rules and statutes conform. Clarity and consistency save time and effort for court and clerks' staff and they support the public's ease of use and confidence in the justice system.

Thank you for considering this suggestion.

Respectfully,

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