



Washington Women Lawyers

April 23, 2017

Washington Supreme Court Rules Committee  
PO Box 40939  
Olympia, WA 98504  
Submitted by email to: [supreme@courts.wa.gov](mailto:supreme@courts.wa.gov)

Re: Proposed General Rule 36

2016-2017  
Executive Committee

Becca Glasgow  
*President*

Jacki Badal  
*President-Elect*

Liz Findley  
*Secretary*

Lisa Keeler  
*Treasurer*

Executive Director  
Ann M. Baus

Justice Johnson and Justices of the Rules Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Women Lawyers to support the adoption of a rule that more effectively addresses bias in the use of peremptory challenges in jury selection in Washington courts. Washington Women Lawyers is dedicated to promoting equal rights for all women, including women who are also members of other minority groups, and we agree with the concerns articulated in *State v. Saintcalle*, 178 Wn.2d 34 (2013). While our statewide board did not reach consensus on particular language for a rule to address this problem, we agree with Legal Voice and our fellow minority bar associations that a new rule is warranted.

In addition, if this Court adopts a rule to address bias in peremptory challenges, we strongly encourage this Court to include gender bias as a basis for objecting to a peremptory challenge under the new rule. Women should not be excluded from service on a jury because of their gender and the same analysis should be applied to address potential bias based on gender as would be applied to address bias based on any other immutable characteristic.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Glasgow  
President, Washington Women Lawyers

**Tracy, Mary**

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**From:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 8:52 AM  
**To:** Tracy, Mary  
**Subject:** FW: WWL comment re: Proposed GR 36  
**Attachments:** WWL Comment GR 36.pdf

Forwarding.

**From:** WWL President [mailto:washingtonwomenlawyerspres@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 28, 2017 7:10 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Subject:** WWL comment re: Proposed GR 36

Good evening,

Please accept the attached letter as Washington Women Lawyers' comment regarding Proposed GR 36. Please also feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Becca Glasgow**  
*State Board President*  
Washington Women Lawyers  
[wwl.org](http://wwl.org) | [president@wwl.org](mailto:president@wwl.org)



Washington Women Lawyers