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breen@sgb-law.com

September 15, 2017

Susan L. Carlson, Clerk
Washington State Supreme Court
P.O. Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504

RE: PROPOSED ER 413

Dear Ms. Carlson:

I fully support proposed ER 413. I have worked with immigrant communities for over 20 years. My observation is that for those lacking documentation, concerns about their immigration status dominate their lives and serve as a major deterrent to accessing important governmental functions, including and perhaps most especially the legal system. This makes a vulnerable community that much more vulnerable when it comes to their willingness to bring claims or to move forward with a criminal allegation. And for those who do come forward their immigration status often becomes a bullseye--again, a scary one for the recipient---that is unnecessary but must be properly managed.

I speak for myself and for the undersigned lawyers at SGB when I request the adoption of proposed evidence rule 413.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Breen
James D. Hailey
Lindsay L. Halm
Sandra E. Widlan
Joseph E. Campagna
Jamal N. Whitehead
Kristin M. Houser
Sims G. Weymuller

Tracy, Mary

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Cc: Breen, Thomas <breen@sgb-law.com>
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Please see the attached letter with respect to ER 413.

Thank you

Shannon Liberio

Legal Assistant

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