



Advocacy for Youth

---

April 26, 2018

Honorable Charles Johnson  
Chair, Supreme Court Rules Committee  
C/O Clerk of the Supreme Court  
PO BOX 40929  
Olympia WA 98504

Dear Justice Johnson,

I write in support of the proposed amendment to RAP 3.4, Title and Case Designation of Parties.

This Court recognized the privacy rights of juveniles adjudicated of offenses in *State v. S.J.C.*, 183 Wn.2d 408 (2015). Sealing a juvenile record provides youth with greater opportunities for success in our communities. *S.J.C.*, in turn, requires uniform application of rule to provide the broadest protections of those opportunities.

Similarly, this Court has noted the importance of re-captioning appellate cases for the same group of youth. Permitting the re-captioning only with authorization of the trial court will lead to disproportionate application, leaving youth to choose between their right to privacy and their right to an appeal.

The use of pseudonyms or initials only where the case has been sealed would directly conflict with the nature of appeal. A juvenile offender case cannot be sealed if it is to be appealed, on both a legal timeline and practical level.

Furthermore, as opinions and briefings are posted on the courts' website for all to read, even the later sealing of a case would be undermined by the continued presence of the unredacted information online.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kendra Miller  
Staff Attorney

**Offices in King ♦ Pierce ♦ Spokane ♦ Yakima Counties**

1225 South Weller Street, Suite 420, Seattle, WA 98144 ♦ Phone (206) 322-2444 ♦ Fax (206) 381-1742 ♦ [www.teamchild.org](http://www.teamchild.org)

**Tracy, Mary**

---

**From:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2018 2:59 PM  
**To:** Tracy, Mary  
**Subject:** FW: Support for RAP 3.4  
**Attachments:** RAP34.docx

Mary-does this go to you or Justice Johnson?

**From:** Kendra Miller [mailto:kendra.miller@teamchild.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2018 2:44 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Subject:** Support for RAP 3.4

April 26, 2018

Honorable Charles Johnson  
Chair, Supreme Court Rules Committee  
C/O Clerk of the Supreme Court  
PO BOX 40929  
Olympia WA 98504

Dear Justice Johnson,

I write in support of the proposed amendment to RAP 3.4, Title and Case Designation of Parties.

This Court recognized the privacy rights of juveniles adjudicated of offenses in *State v. S.J.C.*, 183 Wn.2d 408 (2015). Sealing a juvenile record provides youth with greater opportunities for success in our communities. *S.J.C.*, in turn, requires uniform application of rule to provide the broadest protections of those opportunities.

Similarly, this Court has noted the importance of re-captioning appellate cases for the same group of youth. Permitting the re-captioning only with authorization of the trial court will lead to disproportionate application, leaving youth to choose between their right to privacy and their right to an appeal.

The use of pseudonyms or initials only where the case has been sealed would directly conflict with the nature of appeal. A juvenile offender case cannot be sealed if it is to be appealed, on both a legal timeline and practical level.

Furthermore, as opinions and briefings are posted on the courts' website for all to read, even the later sealing of a case would be undermined by the continued presence of the unredacted information online.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Error! Filename not specified.**

Kendra Miller  
Staff Attorney

--

**Kendra Miller**

Staff Attorney | JR Institutions & Reentry Project

Pronouns: she/her/hers

1225 South Weller St, Ste 420

Seattle, WA 98144

O: (206) 838-8551

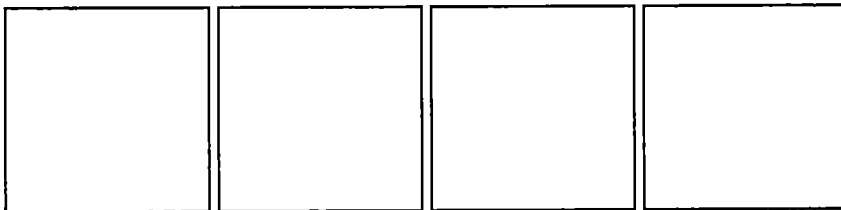
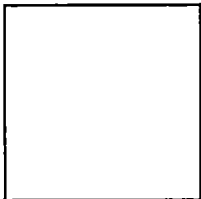
C: (253) 271-4727

F: (206) 381-1742

[www.teamchild.org](http://www.teamchild.org)



*Support us through GiveBIG on May 9th, our community's biggest day of giving. [Learn more here!](#)*



*NOTICE: This electronic communication and any attachments may contain privileged or other confidential information. If you have received it in error, please advise the sender by reply email and immediately and permanently delete the message and any attachments without copying, transmitting or disclosing the contents. Thank you.*