

## Tracy, Mary

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**From:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 9:34 AM  
**To:** Tracy, Mary  
**Subject:** FW: In Support of rule changes CrR 3.7, 3.8, 3.9

**From:** Nikita Parekh [mailto:nparekh@snocopda.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 9:32 AM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Subject:** In Support of rule changes CrR 3.7, 3.8, 3.9

To Whom it May Concern:

I have been a public defender for 1.5 years. In my short time, I have seen the lack of transparency and fairness in how interrogations and eyewitness interrogations play out.

I am writing to support the proposed rule changes: CrR 3.7,3.8, 3.9. These rule changes will ensure a fair and just process. Power and implicit bias play a large role in our criminal justice system. By recording these interviews and interrogations will provide important transparency and hold those in power accountable for their actions. I have had two recent cases where my client was interrogated and it was not recorded and the court allowed the officer to testify to everything that my client had said during the interrogation. The other case was an eyewitness interrogation in which the officer provided extremely biased photos and questioned the eyewitness in very prejudicial ways towards my client but because it was not recorded we did not have corroborating evidence to show that this officer's behavior was unjust.

It is not a surprise that the prosecutors will speak out about this because these rules do not benefit them. But prosecutors hold the most power in the criminal justice system. They should be held to higher standards as truth seekers who are transparent and speak for the community. They should be in support of these rule changes as a way to establish clear transparency in their actions and that of the officers. Prosecutors are rarely held accountable or sanctioned for behavior when they abuse their power.

I fully support these rule changes to reinforce transparency.

Best,  
**Nikita Parekh**  
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