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From: Ken Masters [mailto:ken@appeal-law.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2020 1:26 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: APR 26

Your Honors:

I strongly support requiring all practicing attorneys to protect their clients by maintaining legal malpractice insurance.

It is difficult to understand how any attorney – but particularly the current bar leadership – could possibly oppose such a basic measure to protect the public. Doing so is – or should be – the WSBA’s top priority.

Instead preferring to seemingly protect the membership is shortsighted at best. Not only does malpractice coverage protect our clients from our own inadvertent negligence, but it also provides insurance for defending against unfounded claims, and a ready source of funding for reasonable settlements of meritorious claims. It is a sound investment that will strengthen public trust in our profession.

That is at a premium, of course. But with the WBSA instead choosing to actually *lower* our annual contributions to the Lawyer’s Fund for Client Protection, public trust is – or should be – at a low ebb. That excellent resource was already inadequate. Lowering it is unconscionable.

This Court should instead take this opportunity to lead. It should instead take this opportunity to protect the public. It should vote to require legal malpractice insurance for all practicing attorneys.

Thank you, as always, for this opportunity to comment.

Ken Masters
WSBA 22278

Best,



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