Law Office of BEECHER & CONNIFF

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August 6, 2020

Justices of the Supreme Court PO Box 40929 Olympia WA 98504-0929

Re: Mandatory Malpractice Insurance

Dear Justices of the Court:

I have been practicing for 45 years. I buy malpractice insurance every year but have to finance it over ten months.. I am dismayed to see that the Court is once again taking up the issue of mandatory malpractice insurance. This is dramatically opposed by most of the bar. I don't know how or why this keeps surfacing or why you still consider it. Practitioners are hanging on by a thread. In my specialty, bankruptcy law, filings have been reduced by almost 70% over the last 5 years and are still falling. I have closed my office and laid off all staff and now maintain a virtual practice out of my home. COVID has produced another reduction in filings by 33% over last year's dismal record. The courthouse looks like a tomb and bankruptcy judges have nothing to do. You need to spend more time and resources helping the practice survive, deferring CLE requirements, reducing dues, etc. The Bar News is rife with irrelevant articles. I used to learn something with every issue. Get real and can this initiative. Thank you.

Very Truly Yours,

William L. Beecher (WSBA 3673)

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