

April 20, 2020

Hon. Charles W. Johnson, Associate Chief Justice
Chair, Court Rules and Procedures Committee
Via email: supreme@courts.wa.gov

Re: Comment on Proposed Amendment to CR 30

Dear Justice Johnson,

I am writing to offer my qualified support for the proposed amendment to CR 30. The timing of this request to amend CR 30 could not be more appropriate, as we now see just how important it is to be able to conduct depositions while the Washington certified court reporter is not in the same location as the deponent to administer the oath. Technology has provided the means to conduct depositions in this manner, saving time and costs for all involved, and I support the amendment in this respect.

I DO NOT support the proposed language "provided that the officer is located within this state." Many court reporters living in bordering cities like Portland, Coeur d'Alene, and Lewiston are certified in Washington. If the goal of the amendment is to allow for remote depositions to take place, thereby saving time and travel expenses for all involved, then the proposed language creates a barrier to a certain group of Washington certified court reporters -- those living in bordering states, or even beyond. If a court reporter is certified by the state of Washington, it should not matter where they are located to administer the oath for a remote deposition.

I would propose the language used in Oregon's rule for administration of the oath for telephone depositions. ORCP 39C(7) provides, in pertinent part: The oath or affirmation may be administered to the deponent, either in the presence of the person administering the oath or over the telephone, at the election of the party taking the deposition.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,


Sheri L. Schneider

From: [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)
To: [Tracy, Mary](#)
Subject: FW: CR 30 Amendment Comment
Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 4:18:55 PM
Attachments: [Comments re Rule CR 30 Amendment.pdf](#)

From: Sheri Schneider [mailto:sherischneider7@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 4:18 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: CR 30 Amendment Comment

Attached is my comment on the proposed amendment to CR 30.

Thank you for your consideration

Sheri L. Schneider