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**From:** Taylor, Karissa [mailto:Karissa.Taylor@kingcounty.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 2:46 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Subject:** Comments to proposed CrR 3.4

My concern with the proposed rule is two-fold: first, will lead to unnecessary delays, and second, will ultimately lead to more hearings and less efficiency.

First, delays. This rule allows a defendant to sign a stack of continuance orders at arraignment and then not show up for months. There will be no impetus to negotiate, or discuss with defense counsel any offers made. The court, and prosecutor, will have no idea if a defendant is out of touch with his attorney, or has fled, until the trial is set. Defendants that are out on bail need to be held accountable by the courts, and that cannot be done if they are not required to appear.

Second, and related, is efficiency. Pretrial hearings often have multiple purposes: to extend offers on the record, to amend the charges, to take DNA/print samples, to give notice of motions, to increase or reduce bail, etc. Now, the parties will have to set separate and additional hearings to get these things done. So courts will have to process paperwork for the normally set case setting, but will also then have to set these other necessary hearings.

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