

From: [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)
To: [Tracy, Mary](#)
Subject: FW: Public Comment on Rules of Professional Conduct – RPC 4.4 COMMENTARY AMENDMENT.
Date: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 8:06:08 AM

From: Elizabeth Standal [mailto:standalem@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 18, 2020 11:45 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Public Comment on Rules of Professional Conduct – RPC 4.4 COMMENTARY AMENDMENT.

Hello,

I'm writing to express my support of the passage of this rule which will protect the rights of immigrants in our state. This matters to me because:

- **No one should fear that their immigration status prevents them from seeking justice**, whether as a crime victim or otherwise I am glad that my city of Kirkland supports this, and it is right to make sure it is covered for everyone in our state. All individuals must have free and open access to Washington courts, regardless of their immigration status.
- **Community trust is a cornerstone of our judicial system.** When an attorney is viewed as an extension of the federal immigration system, noncitizens are less likely to go to court to appear for their hearings, file for protection orders, or appear as witnesses, undermining access to justice. Immigration arrests are causing people to miss court; lawyers should not be facilitating these arrests. Doing so results in undermines trust in the judicial system.
- **Lawyers facilitating courthouse arrests is antithetical to a fair system of justice that must protect all of us.** Lawyers must be trusted to keep one's immigration status confidential. Immigration status or perceived immigration status should not be leveraged against anyone.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Standal