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February 6, 2020

Susan L. Carlson
Clerk of the Supreme Court
P.O. Box 40929 Olympia, WA 98504-0929
supreme@courts.wa.gov

Dear Ms. Carlson:

The Legal Foundation of Washington supports the proposed amendment to Comment 4 to Rule of Professional Conduct 4.4 so that the prohibitions from threatening to report, or reporting, the immigration status of a party or witness, and from sharing personal information of a party or witness with immigration authorities in civil matters apply equally to attorneys representing a clients in criminal matters.

There is no cogent reason to exclude criminal case representation from the prohibitions of the Comment. Justice should, in all cases, be free from actions by attorneys intended to obstruct, intimidate and coerce parties and witnesses.

We strongly believe the proposed amendment will represent an important protection that will assist in ensuring access to justice for all Washingtonians, regardless of immigration status, and will, in addition, protect and preserve the integrity of our justice system.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Legal Foundation of Washington / cd".

Legal Foundation of Washington

From: [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)
To: [Tracy, Mary](#)
Subject: FW: Comments to RPC 4.4
Date: Monday, February 10, 2020 2:47:12 PM
Attachments: [RPC 4.4.pdf](#)

From: Caitlin Davis [mailto:caitlindc@legalfoundation.org]
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 2:45 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Comments to RPC 4.4

Caitlin Davis
Executive Director
Legal Foundation of Washington