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**From:** Glenn Slate [mailto:[glenn@heritagefamilylaw.com](mailto:glenn@heritagefamilylaw.com)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 1:42 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <[SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV](mailto:SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV)>  
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I have to comment in opposition to the proposed change to CR71 and specifically it's impact on family law clients and practitioners.

Right now in SW Washington it takes almost twice as long to get an initial consult with a family law attorney as it does to get a matter heard on a family law docket. That is to say that the most serious bottle neck for people to access the court's help on family law issue is the lack of attorneys actively practicing family law.

Any rule change that imposes even a slight increase in burdens on current family law practitioners should be avoided, unless absolutely necessary. This proposed change goes much further than a slight burden, increasing the risk that an attorney could find themselves court ordered to work for free. It is difficult to calculate the amount of time an attorney would be forced to spend, and income they would have to forego addressing trial preparation issues for a client who knew that they would not have to pay for any questions, phone call, or emails.

Increasing the risks or burdens of practicing family law can only drive up the costs or drive out practitioners. Neither result is beneficial for the parents or children who are trying to get the Washington Courts to help with their family law issues.

Thank you.

*Glenn Slate*

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