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Subject: FW: Proposed Rules for Discipline and Incapacity (RDI) by the Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC)

Date: Thursday, July 29, 2021 4:25:23 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

From: John Paul Gustad [mailto:jp@gustadlaw.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 4:21 PM

To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK < SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>

Subject: Proposed Rules for Discipline and Incapacity (RDI) by the Office of Disciplinary Counsel

(ODC)

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Dear Justices,

I respectfully submit my concerns regarding the proposed rules by ODC concerning attorney disciplinary practices.

I certainly support enforcement of the Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC) of my profession and I am happy that keen oversight and governance of the practice of law in Washington State exists.

That said, I believe the currently proposed new rules promulgated by the ODC are too draconian and punitive in their nature.

To my understanding, the RDI were developed by the ODC and WSBA employees without any input from practicing attorneys in Washington State.

I recently celebrated my 20 year milestone of practicing law in Washington State and I hope to practice for another 20 years, supreme powers willing.

As stated above, while I respect good governance and oversight of the legal profession of Washington State, these RDI do not appear to be fair or evenhanded and too much discretion is afforded to ODC without sufficient oversight .

Please consider my concerns when contemplating adoption of these RDI.

Respectfully,

John-Paul Gustad Attorney at Law





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