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Subject: FW: Comment on Proposed Discipline Rules by WA Attorney
Date: Friday, July 2, 2021 10:59:31 AM

From: contact@attorneyhoffman.com [mailto:contact@attorneyhoffman.com]
Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 10:38 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Comment on Proposed Discipline Rules by WA Attorney

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Dear Justices:

I am writing to voice my concern and opposition to the current pending changes to the disciplinary rules.

I have read all of the comments posted and agree with the majority the issues raised. Attorney Seidel's detailed review and the Disability Rights Association's description on the creation process and the effect on attorneys are well said. So I won't repeat them.

I ask that the proposed changes be rejected in their entirety and that a large committee composed of members of every area of the practice of law be created to review and address any possible changes to the disciplinary code.

I have been a Washington State family law attorney since 2004. I have practiced Washington and California, in family law and criminal defense for the most part. For the family law work, as a sole proprietor and sole practitioner.

Grievances can be, and have been used, by opposing parties to harm attorneys that did a good job for their client.

Confidentiality will probably increase the number of incorrect or frivolous grievances. Having everything open to the public, no advisory letter or pre-hearing admonition when something is a minor issue, and the creation of paid prosecutors of the grievances who will have to justify their efforts are detrimental to the existence of small and solo practices.

Some of what is proposed reminds me of the star chamber of old. That should never come to mind when thinking of the WSBA and Washington State Supreme Court.

Please reject the proposed changes in their entirety.

Sincerely,

Robert Eric Hoffman WSBA #35229
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Vancouver, WA 98663