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From: Tamara Garrison [mailto:famlawlegaltechnician@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 19, 2021 4:16 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
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I strongly support GR 40 - Informal Domestic Relations Trial format. I recently had a pro se client participate in an informal trial in King County and the experience was very positive for her. The opposing party was also pro se, English was not their first language, there was an interpreter for the opposing party, and my client was a domestic violence survivor. (The opposing party was the perpetrator.) Any of these circumstances alone would be problematic. She was terrified that she would have to question her former abuser.

This is a wonderful option, especially for pro se parties and cases that are relatively simple. Also, this format also significantly cut down on costs for parties. This will allow more individuals, who would normally have no ability to pay for legal assistance, to possibly hire someone for the limited services and time that would be needed to prepare them for trial (LLLT or attorney) or actually appear with them (attorney) at a very brief (one day) trial. Thank you.

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