

TO: Supreme Court Rules Committee

FROM: Family and Juvenile Law Committee, SCJA

DATE: April 21, 2022

**RE: Proposed changes to the Code of Judicial Conduct Canon 2  
Comments, Rules 2.2 and 2.6**

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Dear Supreme Court Rule Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Family and Juvenile Law Committee of the SCJA to make clear our strong support for the proposed changes to the Code of Judicial Conduct Canon 2.2 (Impartiality/Fairness), and Canon 2.6 (Ensuring the Right to be Heard). While we realize these changes are proposed by the broader Superior Court Judges Association, we want to be clear that these changes are especially important to judicial officers hearing family law matters.

Our committee is largely made up of judges and commissioners, many of whom hear family law matters of all types each and every day. We face an ever-growing number of cases in which one, both, or all parties are self-represented. We all strive, on a daily basis, to uphold our strict ethical standards while also ensuring procedural justice for all litigants appearing before us. The guidance provided as to what constitutes “reasonable accommodation” of unrepresented litigants is needed, and welcome.

We encourage the committee to pass the changes as proposed.

Sincerely,

/s

Commissioner Jennie Laird, co-Chair  
*Family and Juvenile Law Committee, SCJA*

**From:** [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)  
**To:** [Linford, Tera](#)  
**Subject:** FW: SCJA FJLC - support for proposed rules  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 1:03:43 PM  
**Attachments:** [FJLC - Ltr Support re Consortium proposals, 4.21.2022.pdf](#)  
[FJLC - Support Rules 2.2 and 2.6, 4.21.2022.pdf](#)  
[FJLC - Support Comment to Rule 2.3, 4.21.2022.pdf](#)

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**From:** Laird, Jennie [mailto:[Jennie.Laird@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Jennie.Laird@kingcounty.gov)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 12:40 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <[SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV](mailto:SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV)>  
**Subject:** SCJA FJLC - support for proposed rules

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Dear Supreme Court Rules Committee:

Attached please find letters in support from the Family and Juvenile Law Committee of the Superior Court Judges Association for the following proposed rule and/or comment edits:

- The changes to rules as proposed by the Consortium (changing references from “he/she” to “they”)
- Changes to rules/comments to 2.2 & 2.6
- Changes to rule/comment 2.3

Please let me know if you have any issue opening the attachments, or if you prefer that I submit each letter separately. Thank you for your work on these issues.

Thank you,  
Commissioner Laird  
Co-Chair, FJLC

Commissioner Jennie Laird

*(Pronouns she/her/hers)*

MRJC – Courtroom 1F

Family Law