



**Bob Ferguson**  
**ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON**

Administration Division  
PO Box 40100 • Olympia, WA 98504-0100 • (360) 753-6200

April 21, 2022

*Sent via Electronic Mail*

Erin L. Lennon, Clerk  
Washington State Supreme Court  
Temple of Justice  
P.O. Box 40929  
Olympia, WA 98504-0929  
Email: [supreme@courts.wa.gov](mailto:supreme@courts.wa.gov)

**RE: Order Number 25700-A-1411: Proposed Changes to General Rules 11 and 11.1 - Court Interpreters/Purpose and Scope of Interpreter Commission**

Dear Ms. Lennon:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments to General Rule (GR) 11 and 11.1 regarding court interpreters and the purpose and scope of the Washington State Supreme Court Interpreter Commission. We support the proposal of the Interpreter Commission to amend the rules and clarify obligations and provide best practices regarding access to court for limited-English speakers and individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing. Language access is essential for Washingtonians of diverse backgrounds to have equal access to justice. As such, we support the proposed amendments to GR 11 and GR 11.1 that would change the name and broaden the role of the existing state Interpreter Commission to include translation of written documents and improve language access to courts, including court forms and court websites, not just for limited-English proficient individuals, but also for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. As with a number of the rule changes under current consideration, we support efforts to make the legal profession more inclusive with the goal of providing justice in its truest sense for all. These proposed amendments promote inclusivity and a respectful courtroom setting that benefits all Washingtonians.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

BOB FERGUSON  
Attorney General

RWF/eg

**From:** [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)  
**To:** [Linford, Tera](#); [Tracy, Mary](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Rules Published for Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 3:06:23 PM  
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[No. 3 GR 26 Mandatory Continuing Judicial Education.pdf](#)  
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[No. 7 Civil Rules Courts of Limited Jurisdiction.pdf](#)  
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[No. 9 Courts of Limited Jurisdiction Proposed Repeal of Criminal Rule.pdf](#)  
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**From:** Ganga, Elaine L (ATG) [<mailto:elaine.ganga@atg.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 2:21 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Cc:** Mitchell, Kristen (ATG) <kristen.mitchell@atg.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Proposed Rules Published for Comment

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Ms. Lennon,

Attached are ten letters regarding the various proposed rules published for comment.

Thank you,

*Elaine Ganga*

*Executive Assistant*

*Office of the Attorney General*

*Administration Division*

*P.O. Box 40100*

*Olympia, WA 98504*

*Phone: (360) 753-9672*