From: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK

To: <u>Linford, Tera</u>

Subject: FW: Proposed APR 11 Amendment

Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:35:21 PM

From: Jeffrey Aultman [mailto:jeffrey.aultman@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:04 PM

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

Subject: Proposed APR 11 Amendment

External Email Warning! This email has originated from outside of the Washington State Courts Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, are expecting the email, and know the content is safe. If a link sends you to a website where you are asked to validate using your Account and Password, **DO NOT DO SO!** Instead, report the incident.

The proposal to include one hour of ethics to "equity, inclusion, and mitigation of bias in the legal profession and practice of law" is misguided, at best.

Bias is inherent in all of us. No person is exempt. Given the current state of affairs, where people are peddling unscientific theories that white people are inherently racist, the proposed APR 11 amendment would only serve to exacerbate already high racial tensions. Speaking for myself, I am tired of being told everyone but white people are somehow at a disadvantage in the American workplace. This anti-white mantra is invigorating extremist groups and is not based on sound, reliable science. As such, I do not want to be lectured for one hour that by being white I am somehow pre-programmed to be anti-nonwhite, which is what I suspect proponents of this amendment are trying to do.

If there is an altruistic intention behind the proposed amendment, why not offer elective CLEs on <u>everyone's</u> inherent biases and offer scientifically valid tools to deal with those biases in the workplace? That would imbue attorneys and, by extension, our clients on how to improve the workplace for everyone.

- Jeff Aultman, WSBA 34161