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Subject: FW: Proposed amendment to APR 11
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From: Lee Roussel [mailto:hlr@nventure.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 4:27 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Proposed amendment to APR 11

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The proposed amendment to APR 11 is not evidence based and could adversely affect protection of the public from attorney misconduct.

WSBA disciplinary actions are the best data we have on attorney misconduct, and therefore the conduct ethics courses should address. Even a cursory review of disciplinary cases reported in the Bar Journal indicates that the proposed amendment to APR 11 does not address a frequent violation.

The proposed course mandate would divert attendance from topics such as diligence, timeliness, communication and finances that can harm the public. If there is to be a mandatory course, the WSBA should periodically identify the most frequent ethics violation and mandate a course on it. Protecting the public should be the prime concern.

Finally, it is far from clear that the proposed course is needed, since organizations and employers provide comparable courses. Almost everyone has attended at least one. Meanwhile, Washington attorneys continue to harm the public by avoidable ethics violations.

Thank you for considering these comments.

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