

KIM LANCASTER
Legal Technician: Family Law

Telephone: 206-367-2495
E-mail: kim@kimlancasterlt.com
www.kimlancasterlt.com

17503 10th Avenue NE
Shoreline, WA 98155
Facsimile: 206-367-3109

April 9, 2021

Washington State Supreme Court
By Email to supreme@courts.wa.gov

RE: Order No. 25700-A-1336
Amendments to APR 28 Related to Sunsetting the LLLT Program

To the Honorable Justices of the Washington Supreme Court:

I write to oppose the suggested amendments to APR 28 related to the Court's decision to sunset the LLLT program. I ask the Court to reinstate the LLLT program.

The Court's vote to sunset the LLLT program happened just as the program was gaining momentum, with over two hundred potential LLLTs in the pipeline. The stated reason for sunsetting the LLLT program was that it was not self-sustaining, and yet the program was well on its way to becoming completely self-sustaining by 2029. The annual cost of the LLLT program to each member of the WSBA is about the cost of a latte and a pastry.

Other states followed Washington's lead and developed their own legal technician programs, only to find the program abandoned in Washington. The Court authorized this program with local community college support and then shut it down just as those institutions added a LLLT curriculum to their offerings. LLLT students who have paid for the required coursework and testing will run out of time to become licensed. Surely a program that was years in the making, with hundreds of volunteer hours expended, and thousands of low to moderate income family law litigants assisted, should not be eliminated in one afternoon.

I ask the Court to carefully consider all the objections made by stakeholders and the public and reverse its decision to sunset the LLLT program.

Respectfully,



Kim Lancaster
WSBA LLLT No. 109

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Dear Washington Supreme Court Justices:

I submit the attached letter for consideration regarding the proposed amendments to APR 28 related to the sunsetting of the LLLT program.

Thank you,

Kim Lancaster
WSBA LLLT No. 109
(206) 367-2495
www.kimlancasterlt.com

KIM LANCASTER, LEGAL TECHNICIAN. 17503 10th Ave NE, Shoreline, WA 98155 (206-367-2495) kim@kimlancasterlt.com

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