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

Subject: FW: GR 9 Cover Sheet for amendment to CR 39- COMMENT

Date: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 1:17:53 PM

From: whitney@mccullygardner.com [mailto:whitney@mccullygardner.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 1:08 PM

To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK < SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV> **Subject:** GR 9 Cover Sheet for amendment to CR 39- COMMENT

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The current ability for attorneys and clients to appear remotely has increased the access to justice to clients, and allowed more financially fragile clients to receive counsel at a higher rate, since attorneys are no longer spending hours in court waiting for a hearing. Additionally it has allowed attorneys to appear in their clients cases at a higher frequency, and avoids coverage counsel. Our clients are better served with representation by the same attorney who understands the history of the case. Attorneys are no longer having to run from Snohomish to King, to Piece in one day. The new rule allows for Judges/ parties to determine which cases are appropriate for remote hearings and which cases need to appear in person. If Covid has taught us anything, we have learned to think outside the box, and how to increase our clients ability to appear, how to minimize footprints at the courthouse, and how to become more efficient in our filings and motions practices.

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