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Subject: FW: Opposition to changes in CrR 3.4
Date: Thursday, September 30, 2021 3:40:37 PM

From: Bryant, Logan [mailto:Logan.Bryant@kingcounty.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 3:27 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Opposition to changes in CrR 3.4

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Good afternoon,

I am writing in **opposition to the proposed CrR 3.4** changes that permit Defendants to appear via Zoom for all hearings and stages in criminal case. There needs to be physical appearance for trial and sentencing to ensure everyone has a fair trial and sentence.

Issues of connectivity, frozen computers or internet when crucial witnesses are testifying, the ability to take screenshots or photos of jurors and witnesses or even having others be present (i.e. a defense witness offscreen without any party knowing). The likelihood of so many issues and unforeseen circumstances that will cause re-trials—puts victims, witnesses, and defendants through undue hardship and stress. Moreover, issues like the defendant being violated or convicted and cannot be remanded if on Zoom or the need to take fingerprints for sentences (especially for future potential firearm charges or failure to register as a sex offender).

It also presents huge social justice, access to justice, and equity concerns by permitting those with access to high-speed internet, broadband, and computers to appear via Zoom from where ever they please and those who do not have those items to appear in person. This will have the greatest impact on communities of BIPOC and immigrants and those disenfranchised.

Please do not permit these changes.

Thank you for your consideration,
Logan

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