

From: [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)
To: [Linford, Tera](#)
Subject: FW: Comment to proposed changes to CrR 3.4
Date: Friday, October 1, 2021 11:25:46 AM

From: Harrison, Susan [mailto:Susan.Harrison@kingcounty.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 6:49 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Comment to proposed changes to CrR 3.4

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To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in opposition to the proposed changes to CrR 3.4 that would permit defendants to appear via Zoom for all hearings/stages in a criminal case. My concerns include 1) defendants who are convicted at trial or have violated conditions of release and pose a safety risk to the general public but are not remanded because they are not physically present for the hearing and subsequently cannot be located, 2) the unfettered ability of a defendant and/or any person they have with them during trial to take screenshots or otherwise save or broadcast the images of victims, jurors, and witnesses, 3) the very real danger of an incomplete record or even just the claim of an incomplete record resulting in a perpetual lack of finality for victims and witnesses with endless retrials or repeated litigation of issues that should have long since been settled, 4) connectivity issues preventing proceedings from taking place, 5) the herculean task we would assign to jurors in asking them to judge the credibility of any defendant who chose to testify but did so remotely, and last but certainly not least, 6) deep concerns about access to justice and equity issues as defendants with means would be able to purchase benefits not available to those from disenfranchised communities.

I urge you not to adopt these proposed changes.

SUSAN HARRISON
SENIOR DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
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