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Date: Thursday, November 18, 2021 9:48:22 AM

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Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021 9:26 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
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These rule proposals are bad ideas. As a civil practitioner, I have found that litigation by Zoom, while necessary during the pandemic, is no substitute for the traditional civil jury trial. Depositions by Zoom may be here to stay and that may be good, but the jury trial is another matter. I echo the comments of Dan Bridges in the November Bar News and agree that if implemented, Zoom civil jury trials will exacerbate the resource gap among litigants (those with resources will hire splashy production consultants, those without will make do on a laptop in their office) and encourage a lack of engagement by jurors.

I urge the Court not to adopt these rule changes.

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