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Subject: FW: Comments on Proposed Rule GR 41

Date: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 9:25:56 AM

From: Deidre McCormack Martin [mailto:dmccormack@familylawcasa.org]

Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 9:09 AM

To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK < SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>

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To Whom it May Concern,

I want to offer my support for proposed Rule GR 41. During the pandemic, allowing trials to proceed via video conferencing has greatly increased civilians' ability to attend. In our cases in the family court, all of the families are low-income and also many are people of color who face many barriers to getting to court whether work schedules, lack of transportation or lack of other resources such as childcare. Holding trials virtually allows for better participation by parents/parties in custody cases and this is something that should continue. It increases access to the court process and a parent's ability to make their case for their parenting plans. Family Law CASA represents the kids in these cases, not the parents, but we always will stand up for equity and accessibility for low-income families and families of color so they may have a fair process and representation.

Thanks, Deidre

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