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Subject: FW: DMCJA's Proposed changes to CrRLJ 3.4 & 3.3
Date: Friday, April 29, 2022 4:12:11 PM

From: Andrea L. Beall [mailto:ABeall@PuyallupWA.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2022 4:02 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Cc: Charles D Short <cshort@co.okanogan.wa.us>
Subject: DMCJA's Proposed changes to CrRLJ 3.4 & 3.3

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Greetings,

I wish to voice my support for the changes proposed by my association to CrRLJ 3.4 and the correlating provision of CrRLJ 3.3.

I do not believe I can articulate the reasons for support of the changes any better than Judge Short did in his GR 9 Cover Sheet and encourage the adoption of the rule as proposed.

I am supportive of making court appearances less burdensome for defendants and allowing an attorney to appear on behalf of a defendant where the defendant so agrees and the case can meaningfully progress in the defendant's absence. However, if the defendant is not an active participant in their own case – not explicitly appearing through counsel or themselves appearing before the court, the court should have the discretion to order a warrant at that time and this rule helpfully clarifies that the court does have such authority. Additionally, I agree with making the rule more consistent in the terminology used and find the phrasing proposed provides more clarity for courts, attorneys and defendants alike.

Thank you,

Judge Andrea L. Beall
Puyallup Municipal Court

please note new email address: ABeall@PuyallupWA.gov