

TO: Supreme Court Rules Committee

FROM: Family and Juvenile Law Committee, SCJA

DATE: April 21, 2022

**RE: Proposed Rule changes by *the Consortium to Address Biased and Non-Inclusive Language in Court Rules***

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Dear Supreme Court Rules Committee:

The Family and Juvenile Court Committee of the Superior Court Judges Association writes to offer our support to the proposed edits to the following, proposed by *the Consortium to Address Biased and Non-Inclusive Language in Court Rules*: GR 3.1, 5, 10, 12.4, 21, 22, 23, 26, 29, 30, 31.1, 33, 34; CJC II, III, 1.3 Comment, 2.11, 2.12 Comment, 3.4, 3.7, 3.8, 3.11, 3.14, 4.1, 4.1 Comment, 4.2, 4.4, 4.5; DRJ 13; APR 8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 15 Regulation, 19, 22.1, 23, 24.1, 25.2, 28, 28 Regulation; LPO RPC Terminology, 1.2; 1.6, 1.8, 1.10; ELPOC 2.3, 2.8, 4.1, 5.1, 5.7, 8.1, 8.3, 9.2, 10.14, 11.12, 12.6, 314.1, 14.2, 14.4; LLLT RPC Fundamental Principles, 1.2, 1.10, 5.5 Comment, 8.4; RPC Fundamental Principles, 1.0, 1.2 Comment, 1.6 Comment, 1.8 Comment, 1.10 Comment, 1.13, 1.13 Comment, 1.14 Comment, 1.18 Comment, 4.2 Comment, 4.3 Comment, 6.1 Comment, 8.4, 8.5, 8.5 Comment; ELC 2.3, 2.5, 2.7, 2.10, 4.1, 4.9 Title and Rule, 5.1, 5.8, 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 9.3, 10.14, 11.14, 12.4, 12.6, 14.1, 14.2, 14.4; ER 803; and, 1101.

The fairly simple edits offered – substituting the binary gender pronouns for the more inclusive “they” – reflect inclusion that our committee believes is vital. We request the Rules Committee pass the proposed changes.

Sincerely,

/s

Commissioner Jennie Laird, co-Chair  
*Family and Juvenile Law Committee, SCJA*

**From:** [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)  
**To:** [Linford, Tera](#)  
**Subject:** FW: SCJA FJLC - support for proposed rules  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 1:03:43 PM  
**Attachments:** [FJLC - Ltr Support re Consortium proposals, 4.21.2022.pdf](#)  
[FJLC - Support Rules 2.2 and 2.6, 4.21.2022.pdf](#)  
[FJLC - Support Comment to Rule 2.3, 4.21.2022.pdf](#)

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**From:** Laird, Jennie [mailto:[Jennie.Laird@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Jennie.Laird@kingcounty.gov)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 12:40 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <[SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV](mailto:SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV)>  
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Dear Supreme Court Rules Committee:

Attached please find letters in support from the Family and Juvenile Law Committee of the Superior Court Judges Association for the following proposed rule and/or comment edits:

- The changes to rules as proposed by the Consortium (changing references from “he/she” to “they”)
- Changes to rules/comments to 2.2 & 2.6
- Changes to rule/comment 2.3

Please let me know if you have any issue opening the attachments, or if you prefer that I submit each letter separately. Thank you for your work on these issues.

Thank you,  
Commissioner Laird  
Co-Chair, FJLC

Commissioner Jennie Laird

*(Pronouns she/her/hers)*

MRJC – Courtroom 1F

Family Law