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**To:** [Martinez, Jacquelynn](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Change to RPC 1.8  
**Date:** Friday, April 21, 2023 10:59:58 AM

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**From:** Kimberly D. Ambrose <kambrose@uw.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 10:51 AM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Cc:** Christine N. Cimini <ccimini@uw.edu>  
**Subject:** Proposed Change to RPC 1.8

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Justices:

I write in full support of the proposed changes to RPC 1.8, which would bring Washington in line with the ABA Model Rules and would allow lawyers serving those with significant legal needs holistically. I also support the amendments proposed by the public defense community.

I teach in the University of Washington Clinical Law Program where our clients will benefit from this change. For example, my students and I represent incarcerated individuals serving extreme sentences with no means to contribute to their post-conviction litigation expenses. We also serve youth who have been institutionalized or are at risk of being caught in the juvenile legal system. Others in our clinical law program serve indigent children, parents, immigrants and other people without resources and significant legal needs.

I also teach Professional Responsibility at the law school, where I have had to point out for many years that Washington has lagged behind the ABA Model Rules and many other states through its unwillingness to carve out an exception to RPC 1.8(f) for lawyers serving the most needy clients in our communities. This is a welcome step forward and I thank you for your consideration and efforts to move this forward.

Sincerely,

Kim Ambrose  
*Teaching Professor*  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
Director, Race and Justice Clinic  
University of Washington School of Law

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