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To: [Martinez, Jacquelynn](#)
Subject: FW: SUPPORT for RULE CHANGE TO APR 28
Date: Monday, April 24, 2023 9:58:27 AM

From: Lesli Ashley <lesli@empowerfamilylawllt.com>
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 9:58 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: SUPPORT for RULE CHANGE TO APR 28

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I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed court rule change APR 28 that would allow LLLTs to assist with minor guardianship cases. As you are likely aware, when the legislature sunset the Nonparental Custody Statute and replaced with the guardianship statute, the knowledge gap grew substantially. The public need for affordable and accessible legal services in this area is significant, and there is a limited number of practitioners available to meet this demand. This is especially true in rural and economically depressed areas.

By allowing LLLTs to assist with minor guardianship cases, we can help bridge this gap and ensure that more people have access to the legal support they need. LLLTs are trained and qualified to provide legal services in specific areas of law, and their expertise can be particularly valuable in minor guardianship cases, where many individuals may be navigating complex legal issues for the first time.

Moreover, by reintroducing the role of LLLTs in minor guardianship cases, we can help reduce the burden on the court system and free up resources to address other pressing legal needs. This is particularly important given the current strain on our courts due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Overall, I believe that the proposed court rule change to allow LLLTs to assist with minor guardianship is a sensible and necessary step that will benefit both the public and the legal system as a whole. I strongly urge you to support this change and work to ensure that it is implemented as quickly and effectively as possible.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

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Lesli Ashley

Empower Family Law LLLT