

**From:** [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)  
**To:** [Martinez, Jacquelynn](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed new rule, RAP 18.25  
**Date:** Thursday, April 25, 2024 8:10:09 AM

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**From:** Wise, Donna <Donna.Wise@kingcounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2024 8:15 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Subject:** Proposed new rule, RAP 18.25

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To: Supreme Court  
Re: Proposed new rule, RAP 18.25

I write to support proposed new RAP 18.25, requiring the use of initials in some documents filed in the appellate courts. I write from my perspective as a prosecutor for almost 40 years who has handled appeals for 20 years.

This Court uses initials to identify minors and adult victims of sexual abuse. The three divisions of the Court of Appeals each has a different practice with respect to naming these individuals, as the statement in support of the rule describes. Division One does not prohibit the use of full names of victims of sexual assault or of minors in the parties' briefs, which are available to the public online, and many appellate briefs of criminal defendants include those full names. A uniform rule that will protect the privacy of these individuals is in their interest and in the interest of justice. Because most documents filed in the appellate courts are accessible through public internet searches, victims will be reluctant to cooperate with prosecution if they understand that details of a sexual assault, for example, will be associated with their name on the internet. Those detailed description may be posted on other sites with the victim's name. Parents will be reluctant to allow their children to cooperate with prosecution for the same reason. Their privacy should be protected.

Respectfully,

Donna Wise

**Donna Wise**  
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