

From: [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)
To: [Martinez, Jacquelynn](#)
Subject: FW: Comments on WSBA Standards Court Rule Proposal
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 3:39:35 PM

From: Aisling Jennings <AJenning@co.whatcom.wa.us>
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 3:39 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Comments on WSBA Standards Court Rule Proposal

You don't often get email from ajenning@co.whatcom.wa.us. [Learn why this is important](#)
External Email Warning! This email has originated from outside of the Washington State Courts Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, are expecting the email, and know the content is safe. If a link sends you to a website where you are asked to validate using your Account and Password, **DO NOT DO SO!** Instead, report the incident.

Good afternoon,

I would like to address the proposal for caseload standards. Our system is in crisis. Our defenders are beyond burned out. Our clients do not receive the time and consideration that they deserve, not for lack of trying but due to the sheer volume of cases. This is incredibly unsustainable and will result in more people leaving the field and less people pursuing public defense to begin with. This work can be difficult and complicated enough- to add the myriad of cases is untenable. We need immediate and concrete relief. I know that the implementation is complicated and we will have growing pains. But it is a long needed change and one that will be worth it. It benefits defenders, support staff, prosecutors, and clients to have lower caseloads- we serve our communities better and can be functional people outside of our job. Please approve this proposal and invest in our future. Thank you for your time.

Aisling Jennings

She/Her/Ella
Behavioral Health Specialist
Whatcom County Public Defender
Cell: (360) 800-7161
Fax: (360) 778-5641

CONFIDENTIAL: This message is intended for the exclusive use of the individual or entity identified above. It may contain information, which is privileged and/or confidential under both state and federal law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any further dissemination, copy or disclosure of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmittal in error, please immediately notify the sender by e-mail or telephone and permanently delete all copies of this e-mail and any attachments. Thank you for your cooperation.