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To: <u>Martinez, Jacquelynn</u>

**Subject:** FW: Support for new public defender caseloads **Date:** Monday, September 30, 2024 8:08:36 AM

From: Carnissa Lucas-Smith <cdlucassmith@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, September 28, 2024 3:12 PM

To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK < SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>

**Subject:** Support for new public defender caseloads

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Hello,

I spent 4 years working as a public defender in King County before leaving last summer to work in the nonprofit sector. One of the reasons that I left public defense was the unreasonable caseloads. The current high caseloads can prevent effective representation and contribute to burnout in the profession. I support the proposed lower caseload standards.

Thank you, Carnissa Lucas-Smith WSBA# 56866

Carnissa D. Lucas-Smith