From: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK

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

Subject: FW: WSBA proposal citizen comment **Date:** Monday, August 5, 2024 2:29:14 PM

From: C T <thomas.colleen6@gmail.com> Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 2:29 PM

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

Subject: WSBA proposal citizen comment

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Hello,

I want to state my concern Re: the WSBA proposal that significantly limits the number of annual cases a public defender can take on.

This will make me as a citizen very unsafe as criminals will feel empowered to commit more and potentially more serious crimes.

I watched 2 criminals stuff a car trunk full of goods stolen from the Burlington Coat Factory in Marysville this weekend. My sister was afraid to take a picture of the car in case they had a gun or would come over and assault her, but did memorize their plate number so we could tell the security guard.

This proposal will have far reaching and negative impact on our communities. Victims need justice, and having criminals go free because of staffing issues is ludicrous.

Criminals need consequences. If the consequences begin with petty crimes then this deterrent may help them turn into law abiding citizens.

Crime impacts the direct victim and the family and community by making us vulnerable and fearful. This is unacceptable.

Let's look for better options. For the victim as well as for the people committing crimes. Letting them go free, which is the consequence of this proposal helps no one.

Regards,

Colleen Thomas.