

**From:** [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)  
**To:** [Martinez, Jacquelynn](#)  
**Subject:** FW: public comment on WSBA proposal  
**Date:** Friday, August 2, 2024 1:12:47 PM

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**From:** David Lane <david@everettvacuum.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 2, 2024 12:28 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Subject:** public comment on WSBA proposal

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Hello,

I'd like to make a public comment on the WSBA Proposal to limit case loads of public defenders.

My name is David Lane. I'm a business owner in the city of Everett, my wife and I were both born and raised in Everett. We have four children. I say that, because though we have strong ties to this city and state we've been having serious discussions about leaving Washington. Much of our reasoning to explore this option is centered around crime within our community, a blatant duplicit criminal justice system and cost of living. My store has been repeatedly vandalized to include drivebys; This week my insurance company informed me they would not renew my policy because of these incidents. Though we live in one of the better parts of Everett, in the past couple years our neighborhood has experienced personal property crimes, gang shootings, countless eyewitnessing of retail theft, open drug usage, murder, the murder Everett police officer Dan Rocha three blocks from our home, mentally ill and violent persons accosting/assaulting folks in the community from grocery stores to within our neighborhoods. The violent nature and frequency of these crimes is intensifying.

WA Bar Associations proposal of limiting case loads of public defenders, **without the number of public defenders in place to meet the demand**, I believe, will crush an already struggling community. Cases will be dismissed and thrown out without adequate legal representation. All crimes need to be brought to justice for the safety of the community. This is the court's responsibility to its community. WSBA should be proposing ways to increase public defenders to meet the caseload.

As it stands currently: many laws are not enforced, many crimes go unpunished, and many criminals who face arrest are promptly released the next day and go back out into society to do as they've done all along. With citizens increasingly pessimistic and jaded towards its governance, we look to our courts to uphold the law and maintain order. The WSBA proposal will further and drastically

erode what fragile law and order we have. I ask that you reject this proposal.

Respectfully,  
**David Lane**