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

Subject: FW: CrR3.1/CrRLJ3.1/JuCR9.2 STDS - Standards for Indigent Defense

Date: Friday, October 25, 2024 11:18:20 AM

From: Beth Kluckhohn

 kluckhohn@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 10:59 AM

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

Subject: CrR3.1/CrRLJ3.1/JuCR9.2 STDS - Standards for Indigent Defense

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To Whom It May Concern:

As a concerned resident of the City of Shoreline in King County, I request that the Supreme Court approve the recommended rules changes in the Standards for Indigent Defense.

- --The government is required to provide adequate defense from the public fund to people who aren't able to provide for their own representation
- --The attorneys available for the public defense are overbooked and overworked to the point of being unable to provide adequate defense. They are burning out and quitting at a rate that makes providing adequate public defense unsustainable.
- --Therefore, the State is at risk of failing to protect our fundamental Constitutional rights under the Sixth and Fourteenth amendments and must rectify the situation.

This rules change is also an opportunity to protect the health and well-being of the individual attorneys who are doing the work to uphold some of our country's fundamental values. They are the people on the frontlines--in some cases, who are the last defense--for people at the mercy of a frequently inequitable and racially biased criminal justice system. Passing these rules changes will protect them, their clients, and the fundamental principles of the Constitution under which they work.

Thank you,

Elizabeth A. Kluckhohn