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To: [Martinez, Jacquelynn](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed changes for Public Defense
Date: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 11:56:24 AM

From: JOSEPH GLOVER <joseph8894@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 11:44 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Proposed changes for Public Defense

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Good morning,

I provide Public Defense Services for a Municipality. My office is under significant pressure from our municipality to oppose these changes due to their potential financial impact. However, we are steadfast in our refusal to comply. We are risking our contract by taking this stance, but we will not be coerced.

Every individual has the constitutional right to competent counsel—counsel that possesses the necessary resources and time to dedicate to each client, irrespective of the charge. The current standards are inadequate, and the number of public defenders overwhelmed by excessive caseloads and limited time is increasing dramatically. It is the Supreme Court's duty to ensure that each counsel has the time and resources to defend each individual facing criminal charges zealously. It is not the Supreme Court's responsibility to secure funding; this responsibility lies with the legislature. Please do not sacrifice the poor and indigent for economic reasons.

These new caseload standards are essential for misdemeanor work.

Thank you for your consideration.
Joe