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**Subject:** FW: WSBA Standards for Indigent Defense Services  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 8:11:48 AM

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**From:** Joseph Stine <jstine@jstinelaw.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 7:36 AM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Subject:** FW: WSBA Standards for Indigent Defense Services

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Dear Justices of the Washington Supreme Court,

Resending email in support of WSBA Public Defense Standards.

Please see below.

Joseph L. Stine, Attorney at Law, father of Rachel Stine-Sheridan

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**From:** Joseph Stine  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 7:10 AM  
**To:** 'supreme@courts.wa' <[supreme@courts.wa](mailto:supreme@courts.wa)>  
**Subject:** WSBA Standards for Indigent Defense Services

Dear Justices of the Washington Supreme Court,

I am a 45 year attorney with experience as both a prosecutor and criminal defense attorney. Our daughter Rachel Stine-Sheridan is a deputy public defender in Snohomish County.

This email is written in strong support for the proposal before you to enhance the quality of indigent criminal defense services in Wash

Compared to law enforcement agencies, public defenders get the short end of the stick in terms of the allocation of resources within the criminal justice system. Too often they are overworked and understaffed. As a result, these attorneys must assume investigatory and social work duties that take precious time away from handling onerous caseloads. This reality leads to a high rate of attorney burnout and, more importantly, can compromise the quality of legal services provided to the indigent defendants facing extended incarceration if convicted.

The WSBA standards proposal, while not a quick-fix cure, would be a major step forward in addressing the critical needs of public defenders and their clients throughout the state of Washington.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph L. Stine, Attorney at Law, father of Rachel Stine-Sheridan

Phyllis A. Sabourin, mother of Rachel Stine-Sheridan