

From: [Ward, David](#)
To: [Martinez, Jacquelynn](#)
Subject: FW: Comment on Proposed Public Defender Standards
Date: Thursday, September 26, 2024 10:26:29 AM

From: Krista Swain <kristas@sumnerwa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 2:00 PM
To: AOC DL - Rules Comments <RulesComments@courts.wa.gov>
Subject: Comment on Proposed Public Defender Standards

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As an attorney who works in different capacities in five different municipal courts, I believe that the adoption of the proposed public defense standards would place an undue burden on the cities. Having an independent court is so important for municipalities. This creates a community feel and consistency of service from the clerks to the judge and the prosecutor and public defender. Our city courts are placed in risk of closing and moving to county district courts. These courts are already burdened.

Please do not force our cities to make desperate decisions! In the cities that I work in, our public defenders are well paid and doing great work.