

Honorable Justices of the Washington State Supreme Court
Temple of Justice

Dear Justices of the Washington State Supreme Court,

Subject: Support for the National Public Defender Workload Standards

I am writing to express my strong support for the adoption of the proposed National Public Defender Workload Standards. As a Legal Secretary for the Snohomish County Public Defender Association, I have firsthand experience working directly with clients every day. Prior to my current role, I served as a Law Office Assistant at SCPDA, where I frequently communicated with clients who were often frustrated and anxious while awaiting their day in court to prove their innocence.

Many of these clients express their anger and frustration during our calls, primarily because our attorneys are overwhelmed by their current caseloads. Unfortunately, this often means that attorneys do not have the time to respond to every client call, which can exacerbate their distress.

I wholeheartedly believe that our attorneys are among the best in Washington, tirelessly advocating for our clients' right to a fair trial. However, the existing standards make it nearly impossible for them to provide the comprehensive representation that each client deserves.

Adopting the 2023 National Public Defender Workload Standards would significantly improve the ability of our attorneys to manage their caseloads and, ultimately, enhance the quality of representation we can offer to our clients.

Thank you for considering this important initiative.

Sincerely,
Megan Gave
Legal Secretary
Snohomish County Public Defender Association

From: [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)
To: [Martinez, Jacquelynn](#)
Subject: FW: Support for the National Public Defender Workload Standards
Date: Monday, October 21, 2024 9:50:57 AM
Attachments: [Case Load Standards.pdf](#)

From: Megan Gave <mgave@snocopda.org>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 9:44 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Support for the National Public Defender Workload Standards

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Hello -

Please see attached Letter of support for the 2023 case load standards.

Thank you!

Megan Gave (she/her)
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