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**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on Standards for Indigent Defense (CrR3.1/CrRLJ3.1/JuCR9.2 STDS)  
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**From:** Pam Glazner <pamglazner@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 20, 2024 6:23 PM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Standards for Indigent Defense (CrR3.1/CrRLJ3.1/JuCR9.2 STDS)

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My husband has been a Class A Felony-qualified public defender since May 2020, and I am a attorney who represents victims of crime in civil cases. The current caseloads for public defenders are unsustainable and actively damaging for indigent defendants, public defenders and their families, public safety, and public perception of the criminal justice systems.

Revised case standards are critical for providing constitutionally-mandated minimally-competent indigent representation. At best, the current caseloads deny indigent defendants prompt representation because their attorneys cannot prepare their cases in a competent way promptly. At worst, public defenders are sleep-deprived, overworked, and physically ill while trying to present cogent, complicated arguments.

My own spouse worked so much that he rarely got more than 4-5 hours a sleep in the three-year period he was in the felony unit. He carried approximately 90 felony cases and five murder cases on his docket at any one time. Our children said they hoped he would quit or get fired so that he could attend their school events and spend time with him. Unlike many of his colleagues, he avoided FMLA, but he took months to recover from his felony rotation, realizing how damaged his body and mind were from having working so excessively for so long. The stress has taken its toll, and though he loves his job and serving his clients and the public, it may not be worth the damage to his own health and his family.

People already believe the criminal justice system is broken. Refusing to revise case law standards will only increase that perception. As an attorney representing victims in civil cases, I regularly hear the frustration from victims at the repeated continuances and

delays in the criminal cases that frequently precede their civil cases. No one, including the victims of crimes, benefit from the current, ridiculous caseloads.

Please adopt revised case law standards, for all our sakes.

Pamela Glazner