

From: [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)
To: [Martinez, Jacquelynn](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed caseload changes
Date: Monday, October 14, 2024 9:16:53 AM

From: Rena Webb <Rena.Webb@lewiscountywa.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 14, 2024 9:04 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Proposed caseload changes

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Dear Justices,

As a court reporter for Lewis County Superior Court, I am requesting that you NOT reduce the caseloads of our defense attorneys. Our system isn't broken here, but placing limits on their caseloads would definitely break it. It would reduce their caseloads by two-thirds and decimate already strained budgets and have a profound implication for Lewis County's budget and the efficiency of our justice system.. These changes underscore the need for a collaborative approach between the state legislature and local governments to address funding gaps and bolster the public defense workforce pipeline. We have some very experienced attorneys, and this would restrict them from representing indigent individuals with these caseload standards that are being proposed, which will drive up costs and reduce public safety as a result of the crimes not getting prosecuted. I beg you to please reconsider these new caseload standards for our county. Like they say, "If it's not broken, don't fix it." Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Rena S. Webb

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