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Date: Thursday, October 24, 2024 1:08:51 PM

From: Skylar Fisher <skylarpf@uw.edu>
Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2024 12:12 PM
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Subject: Comments on Caseload Standards for Public Defenders

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Good afternoon,

I am a 3L at the University of Washington School of Law. I am interested in pursuing a career in public defense, but the current caseload standards give me serious pause. After speaking to current public defenders, I am concerned that this profession is not a sustainable option for me because of the extremely high caseloads given to public defenders. I believe that every person is entitled to high quality representation but I fear that this is near impossible with such high caseloads. This not only makes the job less meaningful for the public defenders, but also degrades clients' ability to receive justice.

I ask that the Supreme Court reduce the caseload standards for public defenders so that I am able to do this kind of work for a long time, and so that Washington citizens have increased access to efficient, just representation. As Jason Schwarz said, justice is not cheap.

Thank you for your time.

Best,
Skylar

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