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Subject: FW: I SUPPORT the Proposed Standards for Indigent Defense
Date: Wednesday, September 25, 2024 8:36:58 AM

From: Tyson Huynh <huynhtyson@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 6:48 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: I SUPPORT the Proposed Standards for Indigent Defense

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Hello,

I am writing to express my strong support for the new standards for indigent defense. This proposal is crucial for public defenders and clients.

The challenges facing public defenders today are immense, and excessive caseloads significantly hinder their ability to provide effective representation. As highlighted in numerous surveys, the overwhelming workload has deterred new attorneys from entering the field and has driven experienced defenders to leave. The revised standards address these issues by establishing reasonable workload limits and ensuring fair compensation for all public defense providers.

With less than five hours available per misdemeanor case and just eleven hours per felony case, the quality of representation suffers. By implementing revised standards, we can ensure a more equitable distribution of public defense resources across all counties.

Best,

Tyson