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April 10, 2025

Honorable Mary I. Yu, Chair
Supreme Court Rules Committee
c/o Clerk of the Supreme Court
Temple of Justice
P.O. Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504-0929

Re: Proposed Changes to CR 12

Dear Justice Yu:

The Superior Court Judges' Association's (SCJA) Civil Law and Rules Committee, Equality and Fairness Committee, and Family and Juvenile Law Committee reviewed the proposed changes to Civil Rule (CR) 12. This proposed rule change would allow more time for individuals held in jails, detention facilities, prisons, to respond when served in a civil or family law matter. As a matter of general fairness, the SCJA supports providing individuals in these circumstances with the time necessary to participate in legal proceedings.

However, the SCJA has concerns about the unintended consequences such an extension in response times might pose. The proposed rule amendment may conflict with existing laws pertaining to return-of-service for certain case types, such as residential landlord-tenant cases. For this reason, the SCJA suggests amending the proposed rule change to read as follows:

CR 12 (a)(4)

"Within 60 days after the service of the summons upon the defendant if the summons is served in a jail, detention facility, or prison facility pursuant to rule 4, unless a different time for response, appearance, or answer is specifically stated in statute."

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Kristin Ferrera, President
Superior Court Judges' Association

cc: SCJA Board of Trustees
Allison Lee Muller, AOC

From: [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)
To: [Tracy, Mary](#)
Subject: FW: Court Rule Public Comment Letters
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 2:08:55 PM
Attachments: [CR 12 SCJA Public Comment.pdf](#)
[CR 68 SCJA Public Comment.pdf](#)
[Family Law Defense Standards SCJA Public Comment.pdf](#)
[CrR 3.2 SCJA Public Comment.pdf](#)
[CrR 4.1 CrRLJ4.1 CrRLJ 3.2.1 SCJA Public Comment.pdf](#)
[CrR 8.3 SCJA Public Comment.pdf](#)
[GR 24 SCJA Public Comment.pdf](#)
[GR 27 SCJA Public Comment.pdf](#)
[RPC 6.1 SCJA Public Comment.pdf](#)

From: Valdez, Andrea <Andrea.Valdez@courts.wa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2025 11:48 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Cc: Kristin Ferrera <Kristin.Ferrera@CO.CHELAN.WA.US>; Lee Muller, Allison <Allison.LeeMuller@courts.wa.gov>; Ireland, Shelley <Shelley.Ireland@courts.wa.gov>; Green, Heidi <Heidi.Green@courts.wa.gov>
Subject: Court Rule Public Comment Letters

Good morning,

Please see the attached comment letters on behalf of the Superior Court Judges' Association. The proposed rules we are commenting on at this time are:

- CR 12
- CR 68
- CrR 3.1/CrRLJ 3.1/JuCR 9.2 (family defense cases)
- CrR 3.2
- CrR 4.1/CrRLJ 4.1/CrRLJ 3.2
- CrR 8.3
- GR 24
- GR 27
- RPC 6.1

Thank you,
Andrea Valdez, MPA (she/her/hers)
Senior Policy Analyst
Superior Court Judges' Association
Administrative Office of the Courts
Andrea.valdez@courts.wa.gov