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**To:** [Farino, Amber](#)  
**Cc:** [Ward, David](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comment in support of proposed changes to CrR 3.1/CrRLJ 3.1/JuCR 9.2  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 9:19:43 AM

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**From:** Colin Patrick <Colin@washapp.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 9:19 AM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Subject:** Comment in support of proposed changes to CrR 3.1/CrRLJ 3.1/JuCR 9.2

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my strong support for the proposed changes to the appellate indigent defense standards.

I have had the opportunity to represent indigent defendants my entire legal career, spending the last year and a half with the Washington Appellate Project. It has been the most rewarding experience of my life and I am deeply proud of the work my colleagues and I do.

I would like to use this comment to address a narrative that have arisen in response to the proposed changes. In particular, I have heard concerns that, rather than amend the standards, the backlog needs to be addressed by having attorneys file fewer reply briefs, motions, and petitions for review.

As a practitioner, I vehemently disagree that sacrificing these filings are an answer to the backlog. I do not believe I can reasonably explain to a client that I did not take the opportunity to answer the State's brief or ensure exhaustion for federal habeas purpose because I lacked the time and was not expected to do so. I believe that would be antithetical to the goals of our criminal justice system and professional responsibility expectations.

Rather, I believe the proposed changes reflect show respect for the idea that we fully advocate for our clients. The changes would allow us to better serve our clients. I ask that you adopt the changes.

Thank you,

Colin Patrick  
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