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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 Revisions to CrR/CrRLJ 4.1 and CrRLJ 3.2.1

Dear Justice Yu,

The Criminal Rules committees of the Superior Court Judges' Association (SCJA) reviewed the proposed rule revisions of CrR 4.1 CrR/CrRLJ 4.1 and CrRLJ 3.2.1. These rule changes would require in-custody arraignments to be held within three days from the information filing date. The three-day time to arraignment requirement would also apply to defendants subject to conditions of release. The current rules specify that in-custody arraignments must be held within 14 days from filing.

The SCJA is concerned that three calendar days would cause an undue burden for the courts. There are considerations that would make three calendar days impractical, such as holidays and the time it takes to appropriately assign counsel to defendants. Alternatively, the SCJA proposes that in-custody arraignments should be held within five court days from filing. This would significantly reduce the timeline for current in-custody arraignments, while also giving courts enough time to meet their obligations to defendants.

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)
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Superior Court Judges' Association
Administrative Office of the Courts
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