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Subject: Proposed Amendment to CrR/ CrRLJ 8.3- comment
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Good afternoon,

I am a deputy prosecuting attorney in Snohomish County. I strongly object to this amendment. I have personally seen this rule in its current form attempt to be used as a weapon to interfere with just prosecutions rather than to bring justice. The standard currently in place protects against abuse of the rule while still upholding rights of the defendants and holding the state accountable. I fear if this rule change takes effect, the courts will be flooded with even more motions to dismiss, and some will be for frivolous reasons. My main concern, however, is that the change would result in giving too much discretion to judges and inevitably result in disparate outcomes for defendants. Based on recent news stories and conversations I have had with community members, the general population would like judges to have less discretion, not more. They want judges to insert their personal beliefs about justice and fairness less, not more. I am also highly concerned about the effect this change could have on victims of crime and their rights which are protected by our state constitution. From my experience as a prosecutor in our state courts, I have seen judges use the rule as is to suppress evidence, dismiss cases, and let cases go forward with all evidence. I believe the current rule is sufficient to protect the interest of the community, crime victims, and defendants.

Thank you for your consideration.

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