



King County

Department of Judicial Administration

Barbara Miner

Director and Superior Court Clerk

(206) 296-9300 (206) 296-0100 TTY/TDD

May 28, 2009

Andrew Prazuch, Executive Director
King County Bar Association
1200 Fifth Avenue, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98101

RE: Proposed Changes to King County Superior Court Local Rules

Dear Mr. Prazuch:

Enclosed please find a proposed amendment to the King County Superior Court Local Rules pursuant to King County Local Rule 83. The Court will consider all comments, criticisms and objections to these proposals that are received by June 9, 2009.

Comments to the proposed rule changes should be in writing and directed to:

lrcomments@kingcounty.gov

or

Barbara Miner
Clerk of the Superior Court
ATTN: Local Rules
516 Third Avenue, Rm E609
Seattle, WA 98104

A copy of these proposed changes will also be available in the Copy Center of the Clerk's Offices, the King County Law Library in Seattle and at the Law Library in the Regional Justice Center in Kent and on the Clerk's web page at: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/Clerk/Rules.aspx>.

We request that you send an e-mail to your members regarding these proposed changes. Paul Wood will send you the proposed changes and a Clerk's Alert regarding the changes. Thank you.

Sincerely,

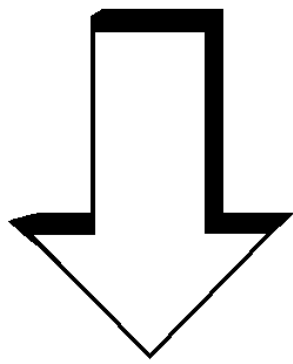
Barbara Miner
Director and Superior Court Clerk

enclosure

Seattle:
516 Third Avenue Room E609
Seattle, WA 98104-2386

Regional Justice Center:
401 Fourth Avenue North Room 2C
Kent, WA 98032-4429

Juvenile Section:
1211 East Alder #307
Seattle, WA 98122-5598



CLERK'S OFFICE

ALERT

JURY ASSIGNMENT AREA RULE ADOPTED ON EMERGENCY BASIS AND PUBLISHED FOR COMMENT

The King County Superior Court has adopted Local General Rule 18 Jury Assignment Area on an emergency basis, effective May 27, 2009.

Pursuant to King County Local Rule 83, the King County Superior Court is hereby publishing this change to the King County Superior Court Local Rules. The Court will consider all comments received by June 9, 2009.

Copies of the proposed change are available on the Clerk's website at: www.kingcounty.gov/courts/Clerk/Rules.aspx and are also available to view at the copy center in the Clerk's Office in Seattle and in Kent.

Comments to the proposed rule changes should be in writing and directed to:

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or

***Barbara Miner
Clerk of the Superior Court
ATTN: Local Rules
516 Third Avenue, Rm E609
Seattle, WA 98104***

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC CONTACT:

Paul Wood – 206-296-1142

ISSUED BY: Barbara Miner, Director 
ISSUE DATE: May 27, 2009
ISSUE NO: 09-007

LGR 18. Jury Assignment Area

(e) Location for Jury Assignment Areas for Civil and Criminal Cases Filed in King County.

(1) *Designation of Jury Assignment Areas.* The jury source list shall be divided into a Seattle jury assignment area and a Kent jury assignment area that consist of registered voters and licensed drivers and identicard holders residing in each jury assignment area. The area within each jury assignment area shall be identified by zip code and documented on a list maintained by the chief administrative officer for the court.

(2) *Capital Cases; Out-Of-Assignment Area Criminal Cases.* Criminal cases where the death penalty may be imposed shall be heard by jurors drawn from the entire county unless the defendant stipulates to a trial before a jury from the Seattle or Kent jury assignment area, as applicable. A criminal defendant may not be tried, over objection, before a jury drawn from a jury assignment area other than where the crime was alleged to have been committed, provided the objection is made at least twenty-eight (28) days before trial, in open court.

(3) *Where Jurors Report.* Individuals receiving a jury summons shall report for service to the Court facility in the jury assignment area identified on the face of the summons.

(4) *Adjustment of Jury Assignment Area Boundaries.* The jury assignment areas contained in this rule may be adjusted by the administrative office of the courts based on the most current United States census data at the request of the majority of the judges of the superior court when required for the efficient and fair administration of justice.

Comment

This rule implements RCW 2.36.055, which allows the jury source list in King County to be divided into jury assignment areas that consist of registered voters and licensed drivers and identicard holders residing in each jury assignment area. The purpose of the statute and this rule is to lessen the burdens borne by jurors in traveling long distances to attend court proceedings by narrowing the geographic area from which jurors are drawn while maintaining a random and proportionate jury pool.