



Kitsap County Prosecuting Attorney

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Re: Comments on proposed LGR 30.1

I support the proposed amendment of LGR 30.1 concerning the mandatory use of District Court website criminal pattern forms if the pattern forms are available on the website. I understand the purpose of the proposed change and believe that it is a step forward. However, I have concerns about the implementation date and the impact it will have on criminal filing in District Court. **I would urge the Court to consider delaying the effective date of the rule pending implementation of an interface with our systems or other accommodation for the filing of charges.**

In 2023, both the Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office and the Kitsap County District Court will implement new electronic filing systems. The Prosecutor's Office will go live with Prosecutor by Karpel (PBK) on July 24, 2023, while the Court will go live with eJournal for Courts on August 14, 2023.

Presently, LGR 30.1 will go into effect on November 13, 2023. The Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office is the largest generator of filings for the Court, initiating thousands of criminal complaints annually. For PBK and eJournal to work efficiently, eJournal must create an interface portal allowing seamless filing between the two systems. The interface would also impact and benefit other departments and stakeholders. It is my understanding that without an active interface, the filing of criminal complaints would be a labor-intensive process that would require significant amounts of data entry in the Court's system prior to a complaint being accepted for filing. Currently, that work is performed by the Court's staff. We are not staffed at a level that would allow us to meet these new requirements.

It is unlikely that an interface between eJournal and PBK will be up and running by November 13, 2023, and building flexibility into the effective date for LGR 30.1 will allow all parties to continue working together until a functional interface is established to fulfill the public mandates on both the Court and the Prosecutor.

I appreciate the ongoing collaboration with the creation of standardized forms to be used with eJournal. The Kitsap County District Court continues to find innovative solutions and has regularly sought input on the creation of forms processes, including for electronic filings. I remain confident that, working together, we can find a way forward.

Sincerely yours,

CHAD M. ENRIGHT
Prosecuting Attorney