

# THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUGGESTED NEW )  
RULES CrR 4.12—SIGNATURES AND CrRLJ )  
4.12—SIGNATURES )  
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## ORDER

NO. 25700-A-1422

The Board for Judicial Administration COVID Recovery Task Force Adult Criminal Committee, having recommended the suggested new rules CrR 4.12—Signatures and CrRLJ 4.12—Signatures, and the Court having approved the suggested new rules for publication;

Now, therefore, it is hereby

### ORDERED:

(a) That pursuant to the provisions of GR 9(g), the suggested new rules as attached hereto are to be published for comment in the Washington Reports, Washington Register, Washington State Bar Association and Administrative Office of the Court's websites in January 2023.

(b) The purpose statement as required by GR 9(e), is published solely for the information of the Bench, Bar and other interested parties.

(c) Comments are to be submitted to the Clerk of the Supreme Court by either U.S. Mail or Internet E-Mail by no later than April 30, 2023. Comments may be sent to the following addresses: P.O. Box 40929, Olympia, Washington 98504-0929, or [supreme@courts.wa.gov](mailto:supreme@courts.wa.gov). Comments submitted by e-mail message must be limited to 1500 words.

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ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUGGESTED NEW RULES CrR 4.12—SIGNATURES AND  
CrRLJ 4.12—SIGNATURES

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 31st day of March, 2022.

For the Court

  
González, C.J.

PROPONENT: Proposed new rule CrR 4.12 is submitted and endorsed solely by the Adult Criminal Committee of the BJA Court Recovery Task Force. This proposal does not necessarily reflect all of the BJA Court Recovery Task Force members' perspectives.

SPOKESPERSON: Amy Muth, Chair; 206-940-0294; [amy@amymuthlaw.com](mailto:amy@amymuthlaw.com)

PURPOSE: The proposed rule memorializes Supreme Court Order No. 25700-B-658 (13)(a), which permits attorneys to submit orders to continue criminal or juvenile offender matters without obtaining the defendant's or respondent's signature. Allowing an attorney to sign on a defendant or respondent's behalf to advance the case has created efficiency for attorneys and courts in managing criminal calendars, and particularly benefits public defenders, who no longer need to visit multiple in-custody clients for the purpose of obtaining a signature to continue a routine matter.

HEARING: We do not believe that a public hearing is necessary.

EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION: We do not believe that expedited consideration is necessary.

**[NEW]**  
**Proposed CrR 4.12**  
**SIGNATURES**

Defense counsel is not required to obtain signatures from defendants or respondents on orders to continue criminal or juvenile offender matters. An attorney's signature on an order to continue constitutes a representation that the defendant or respondent has been consulted and agrees to the continuance.

PROPONENT: Proposed new rule CrRLJ 4.12 is submitted and endorsed solely by the Adult Criminal Committee of the BJA Court Recovery Task Force. This proposal does not necessarily reflect all of the BJA Court Recovery Task Force members' perspectives.

SPOKESPERSON: Amy Muth, Chair; 206-940-0294; [amy@amymuthlaw.com](mailto:amy@amymuthlaw.com)

PURPOSE: The proposed rule memorializes Supreme Court Order No. 25700-B-658 (13)(a), which permits attorneys to submit orders to continue criminal matters without obtaining the defendant's signature. Allowing an attorney to sign on a defendant's behalf to advance the case has created efficiency for attorneys and courts in managing criminal calendars, and particularly benefits public defenders, who no longer need to visit multiple in-custody clients for the purpose of obtaining a signature to continue a routine matter.

HEARING: We do not believe that a public hearing is necessary.

EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION: We do not believe that expedited consideration is necessary.

[NEW]

**Proposed CrRLJ 4.12**

**SIGNATURES**

Defense counsel is not required to obtain signatures from defendants on orders to continue criminal matters. An attorney's signature on an order to continue constitutes a representation that the defendant has been consulted and agrees to the continuance.