

The Honorable Jay Inslee  
Office of the Governor  
PO Box 40002  
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee:

The Board of Governors for the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) has followed with concern the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in our state over the last several weeks. Like all Washingtonians, the members of the Board of Governors earnestly hope that the provisions of the Stay Home – Stay Healthy Order (Order) announced at your press conference on March 23, 2020 are sufficient to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and save lives in our State.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I write for two purposes. The first is to express our strongest possible urging that enforcement of the Order be in strict accordance with all applicable civil liberties protections. The provisions of the Order are unprecedented in our State, and may cause confusion or fear for various populations, including those that the Order is intended to protect. Washington has an opportunity to model for other jurisdictions how to protect against the spread of the COVID-19 virus, while still ensuring that our citizens are treated in accordance with the principles of rule of law.

My second purpose in writing is to offer the WSBA's assistance during this challenging time. Among other resources, the WSBA is fortunate to have members who are subject matter experts in the areas of civil rights, criminal law, and military matters. Please do not hesitate to let me know if our members can be of assistance, and I would be glad to solicit and coordinate their expertise.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Rajeev Majumdar

cc: Chief Justice Debora Stephens  
Attorney General Bob Ferguson