

FILED
NOV - 6 2019
WASHINGTON STATE
SUPREME COURT

THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED)
AMENDMENTS TO BJAR PREAMBLE, BJAR 1, 2,)
3, 4, AND 5)
_____)

ORDER

NO. 25700-A-1266

The Board of Judicial Administration, having recommended the expeditious adoption of the proposed amendments to BJAR Preamble, BJAR 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, and the Court having considered the proposed amendments and comments submitted thereto, and having determined that the proposed amendments will aid in the prompt and orderly administration of justice;

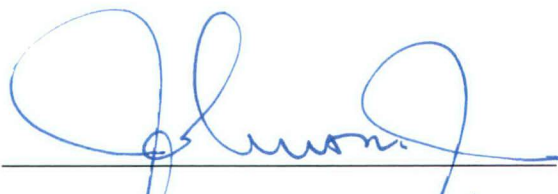
Now, therefore, it is hereby

ORDERED:

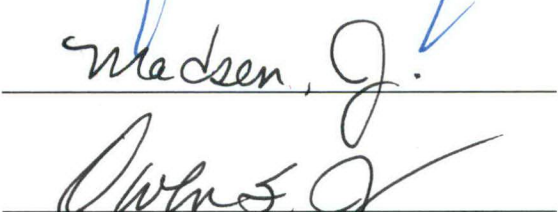
- (a) That the proposed amendments as attached hereto are expeditiously adopted.
- (b) That the proposed amendments will be published expeditiously in the Washington

Reports and will become effective upon publication.

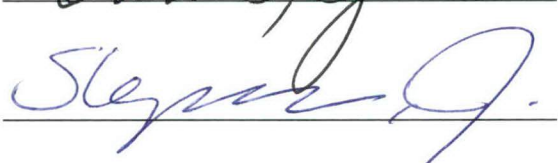
DATED at Olympia, Washington this 6th day of November, 2019.



Madsen, J.

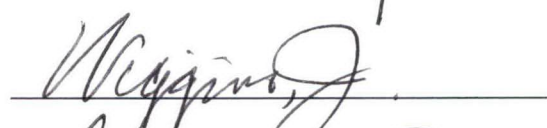


Owens, J.

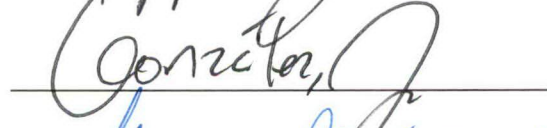


Steyer, J.


Fairhurst, C.J.




Wiggins, J.



Gonzalez, J.



Suz McClellan, J.



[unclear], J.

1 **BOARD FOR JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION RULES (BJAR)**

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4 **BJAR**
5 **PREAMBLE**

6
7 The power of the judiciary to make administrative policy governing its operations is an essential
8 element of its constitutional status as an equal branch of government. ~~The Board for Judicial~~
9 ~~Administration is established to adopt policies and provide strategic leadership for the courts at~~
10 ~~large, enabling the judiciary to speak with one voice.~~

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12 **BJAR 1**
13 **BOARD FOR JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION**

14
15 ~~The Board for Judicial Administration is created to provide effective leadership to the state~~
16 ~~courts and to develop policy to enhance the administration of the court system in Washington~~
17 ~~State. The Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) is established to provide leadership and~~
18 ~~develop policy to enhance the judiciary's ability to serve as an equal, independent, and~~
19 ~~responsible branch of government. The vision of the BJA is to be the unified voice of the~~
20 ~~Washington State Courts. Judges serving on the BJA Board for Judicial Administration shall~~
21 ~~pursue the best interests of the judiciary at large.~~

22
23 **BJAR 2**
24 **COMPOSITION**

25
26 (a) Membership. The Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) shall consist of judges from all
27 levels of court and other key stakeholders, selected for their demonstrated interest in and
28 commitment to judicial administration and court improvement. The voting membership of the
29 BJA shall consist of the Chief Justice and one other member of the Supreme Court. The Board
30 shall consist of five members from the appellate courts (two from the Supreme Court, one of
31 whom shall be the Chief Justice, and one member from each division of the Court of Appeals),
32 five members from the Superior Courts Judges' Association, one of whom shall be the
33 President of the Superior Court Judges' Association, and five members from the District and
34 Municipal Court Judges' Association, of the courts of limited jurisdiction, one of whom shall be
35 the President of the District and Municipal Court Judges' Association. The non-voting
36 membership shall include the Washington State Bar Association's Executive Director and Board
37 President, two members of the Washington State Bar Association (non-voting) and the
38 Administrator for the Courts (non-voting), the Presiding Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, the
39 President-elect judge of the Superior Court Judges' Association, and the President-elect judge
40 of the District and Municipal Court Association.

41
42 (b) Selection. Members shall be selected based upon a process established by their respective
43 associations or court level which considers demonstrated interest and commitment to judicial
44 administration, improving the courts, racial and gender diversity, and the court's as well as
45 geographic and caseload differences.

46
47 (c) Terms of Office.

48
49 (1) Members serve four year terms, except the Chief Justice, the Presiding Chief Judge of the
50 Court of Appeals, the President Judges, the Washington State Bar Association's President and
51 Executive Director, and the Administrator for the Court who shall serve during their tenure. Of
52 the members first appointed, one justice of the Supreme Court shall be appointed for a two-year

1 term; one judge from each of the other levels of court for a four-year term; one judge from each
2 of the other levels of court and one Washington State Bar Association member for a three-year
3 term; one judge from the other levels of court and one Washington State Bar Association
4 member for a two-year term; and one judge from each level of trial court for a one-year term.
5 Provided that the terms of the District and Municipal Court Judges' Association members that
6 begin on July 1, 2017 shall be for less than a full term, two years, and shall thereafter be for a
7 term of four years and the terms of the Superior Court Judges' Association members whose
8 terms begin on July 1, 2010 and July 1, 2013 shall be for two years each. Thereafter, voting
9 members shall serve four-year terms and the Washington State Bar Association members for
10 three-year terms commencing annually on July 1. The Chief Justice, the President of Judges,
11 and the Administrator for the Courts shall serve during tenure.

12
13 (2) Members serving on the BJA shall be granted equivalent pro tempore time.
14

15 **BJAR 3**

16 **OPERATION STRUCTURE**

17

18 (a) ~~Leadership~~Leadership. The Board for Judicial Administration shall be chaired by the Chief
19 Justice of the Washington Supreme Court in conjunction with a Member Chair who shall be
20 elected by the Board. The duties of the Chief Justice Chair and the Member Chair shall be
21 clearly articulated in the bylaws. ~~Meetings of the Board may be convened by either chair and~~
22 ~~held at least bimonthly. Any Board member may submit issues for the meeting agenda.~~

23
24 (b) ~~Committees~~Committees. Ad hoc and standing committees may be appointed for the
25 purpose of facilitating the work of the Board. Non judicial committee members shall participate
26 in non-voting advisory capacity only.
27

28 (1) The Board shall appoint at least four standing committees: Policy and Planning, Budget and
29 Funding, Education, and Legislative. Other committees may be convened to help facilitate the
30 work of the Board as determined by the Board.
31

32 (2) ~~The Chief Justice and the Member Chair shall nominate for the Board's approval the~~
33 ~~chairs and members of the committees. Committee membership may include citizens,~~
34 ~~experts from the private sector, members of the legal community, legislators, clerks, and~~
35 ~~court administrators.~~
36

37 (c) ~~Voting~~. All decisions of the Board shall be made by majority vote of those present
38 and voting provided there is one affirmative vote from each level of court. Eight voting
39 members will constitute a quorum provided at least one judge from each level of court is
40 present. Telephonic or electronic attendance shall be permitted but no member shall be
41 allowed to cast a vote by proxy.
42

43 **BJAR 4**

44 **DUTIES**

45

46
47 (a) ~~The Board shall establish a long-range plan for the judiciary;~~

48
49 (b) ~~The Board shall continually review the core missions and best practices of the courts;~~
50

1 ~~(c) The Board shall develop a funding strategy for the judiciary consistent with the long-range~~
2 ~~plan and RCW 43.135.060;~~

3
4 ~~(d) The Board shall assess the adequacy of resources necessary for the operation of an~~
5 ~~independent judiciary;~~

6
7 ~~(e) The Board shall speak on behalf of the judicial branch of government and develop statewide~~
8 ~~policy to enhance the operation of the state court system; and~~

9
10 ~~(f) The Board shall have the authority to conduct research or create study groups for the~~
11 ~~purpose of improving the courts.~~

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14 **BJAR 45**
15 **STAFF**

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17 Staff for the Board for Judicial Administration shall be provided by the Administrator for the
18 Courts.

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20 **BJAR 5**
21 **[New Rule]**

22
23 **BYLAWS**

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25 The Board may, by a majority vote of the voting members, develop, adopt, and amend bylaws
26 for its operations that do not conflict with these rules.

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