

## Michelle J. Cook

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**From:** Eileen Butler <ebutler@kidzlaw.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 18, 2023 10:22 AM  
**To:** Michelle J. Cook  
**Subject:** RE: Superior Court Proposed Local Court Rules

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Dear Ms. Cook:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed rule changes. I think the clarification to SCLGALR 3 is well done and now easy to understand. I wish to comment on the proposed changes to SCLGALR 6.4. I have two observations:


- First, it is my experience and understanding that when a GAL leaves the registry, especially if the case is still ongoing, it can create hardship on the parties and unwanted delay to have the case reassigned. It may be helpful for a GAL to have advanced notice that he/she is required to complete all cases, to the best of his/her ability, before leaving the registry.
- Second, the Order appointing GAL states that the appointment will end when a final order is entered or the Court discharges the GAL. It could be helpful to add language to this rule reflecting that fact to guide the GAL.

For your consideration is the following suggested language (underlined) which addresses both scenarios.

"A guardian ad litem who ceases to be on the registry and who still has active or incomplete cases shall immediately report his circumstance to the Court Administrator, and the court shall reassign such cases, unless the Court makes a good cause finding for the Guardian Ad Litem to remain on the case. If the GAL is aware that he/she will cease to continue on the registry, the GAL should endeavor to complete all assigned cases, to the best of his/her ability, before ceasing to be on the registry; and/or obtain an order discharging the GAL from any active or incomplete cases.

Thank you for your consideration.

EILEEN E. BUTLER

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**From:** Michelle J. Cook <mjcook@co.skagit.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 17, 2023 6:30 PM  
**Subject:** Superior Court Proposed Local Court Rules

## 2023-2024 Proposed Local Court Rules

Please see the attached proposed rules from Skagit County Superior Court. The comment period on these rules is open through June 16, 2023. Any comments upon these rules must be received by the Superior Court Administrator by 4:30 p.m. on June 16, 2023 to be considered.

You may deliver or email any comments to:

Michelle Cook, Superior Court Administrator  
205 W. Kincaid Street, Room 202  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

[mjcook@co.skagit.wa.us](mailto:mjcook@co.skagit.wa.us)

This information will also be posted on our website shortly.

*Michelle Cook  
Superior Court Administrator  
205 W. Kincaid Street, Room 202  
Mount Vernon, WA. 98273  
(360) 416-1206*