

## Marla McCowan

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**From:** Richard Hillary <rhillary@kcod.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 22, 2017 9:22 AM  
**To:** Comments  
**Subject:** Standard 7

As an experienced attorney with over 100 felony trials, including 15 homicides, I am in a position, after training and observation of another attorney, to determine whether that attorney is qualified to represent a defendant on a life offense case. The number of cases tried, or how long they have been practicing has no bearing on how effective and competent they are as an attorney. I have observed attorneys that have 10 plus years of criminal defense experience and have tried several felony trials, that are incompetent in trial. I also have witnessed first year attorneys that have little trial experience, that are excellent trial attorneys in both preparation and presentation. A determination as to who is qualified to handle a life offense case cannot be made by putting numbers on it. Thanks for the consideration.