

Marla McCowan

From: Brent Snyder <brentdsnyder@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 5:51 PM
To: Comments
Subject: Proposed Standard 7

My concerns with Proposed Standard 7:

In principle, I think that Proposed Standard 7 is long overdue and will provide indigent defendants with qualified counsel. In practice however, I am concerned that if an indigent defense delivery system develops separate District and Circuit court lists, The Circuit Court will simply drop newly added attorneys who don't meet the standard from its list. Counties that currently have enough attorneys who have crawled their way up the Circuit Court list could manage without having to help new attorneys achieve the qualifications to be eligible take on low-severity felonies. And, District Court lists, being filled with attorneys qualified to handle misdemeanor cases, would be under no obligation to take on the attorneys who have been dropped from the Circuit Court list. This would create a situation where newly added attorneys on the Circuit Court list would be unable to continue to practice indigent defense.

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