

MODIFICATION REQUEST COVER SHEET

Name of Filer	NORMA RODRIGUEZ
Reporting Period	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointee report – April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022
Type of Request	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal with No Change <input type="checkbox"/> Full Commission Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal with Change
Office Held & Term	Superior Court Judge, Benton County Position 4 Current term expires December 31, 2022 (appointed April 1, 2021)
Application Rule(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Income & Ownership Interest: WAC 390-28-100(1)(b) <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Residence: WAC 390-28-100(1)(d) <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney: WAC 390-28-100(1)(e)(i) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judge / Judicial Candidate: WAC 390-28-100(1)(e)(ii) <input type="checkbox"/> Spousal: WAC 390-28-100(1)(e)(iv) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: WAC 390-28-100(1)(a)(c)
Explanation of Rules(s)	<p>Judges and former law firms. An applicant may be allowed to satisfy the reporting requirements of RCW 42.17A.710 (1)(g)(ii) and WAC 390-24-020 by disclosing any required information of which the applicant is aware, provided the applicant certifies that the applicant is no longer able to access or has been denied access to the former law firm's client information.</p> <p>The commission may apply (e)(i) of this subsection when the applicant is a nonincumbent judicial candidate who practiced law during the reporting period and who seeks a modification regarding reportable business clients of the law firm.</p>
Supporting Documents (attached)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Current F-1 (filed April 15, 2022) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modification Application
Reason(s) for Modification (as stated by filer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judge Rodriguez is requesting a reporting modification that would exempt her from disclosing the business customers or clients that paid \$12,000 or more during the reporting period to her former law firm, Rodriguez Interiano Hanson and Rodgers, PLLC, now Quantum Law, LLC. • Judge Rodriguez was an attorney with Rodriguez Interiano Hanson and Rodgers, PLLC prior to her appointment to the Benton County Superior Court.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quantum Law, LLC has an office that employs approximately 6 attorneys and 4 other staff members with approximately 1,500 clients with open cases.• Judge Rodriguez states in her application that the accountant for the firm is currently transitioning out of the office and is training their replacement. She went on to state that pausing the training in order to go through each contract and then search QuickBooks to find which clients are reportable would pose an unreasonable hardship on the staff.• Judge Rodriguez stated that some of the firm's reportable clients may be listed on the firm's website or in court documents but attests that she no longer has access to any of the client names or payment information.• Judge Rodriguez stated that some payments were made with a confidentiality agreement due to insurance settlement agreements for clients. Therefore, she would be in violation of these agreements if she reports these clients that have confidentiality agreements and paid over \$12,000 during the reporting period of April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022.
Other Issues	<p>In her application, Judge Rodriguez stated that the Benton County Superior Courts have the client list from Quantum Law, LLC and will be assigning cases to dockets other than her own to avoid conflicts. The courts have also indicated that they will be noting the conflict in the case files.</p> <p>Judge Rodriguez has agreed to recuse herself if a matter came before her involving a conflict of interest between her former law firm, Rodriguez Interiano Hanson and Rodgers, PLLC, now Quantum Law, LLC and Benton County Superior Court.</p>