

MODIFICATION REQUEST COVER SHEET

Name of Filer	CLAIRE SUSSMAN
Reporting Period	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual report – calendar year 2018 <input type="checkbox"/> Candidate/Appointee report
Type of Request	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renewal with No Change – <u>original granted on March 25, 2010</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Commission Approval – <u>April 24, 2014</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal with Change
Office Held/Sought & Term	District Court Judge, Pierce County Current term expires December, 2022
Application Rule(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Income & Ownership Interest: WAC 390-28-100(b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personal Residence: WAC 390-28-100(d) <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney: WAC 390-28-100(1)(e)(i) <input 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 Rule(s)	<p>Personal residence - Real property. Regarding reporting the information otherwise required by RCW 42.17A.710 (1)(h) through (k):</p> <p>(i) Under WAC 390-24-200, the filer shall list the street address of each parcel, the assessor's parcel number, the abbreviated legal description appearing on property tax statements, or the complete legal description. Each property description shall be followed by the name of the county in which the property is located.</p> <p>(ii) No modification will be necessary if the filer describes the real property using one of the alternatives in WAC 390-24-200, plus the name of the county.</p> <p>(iii) A modification will be required if the filer seeks some other means to describe reportable real property including the personal residence of the filer. The commission may consider a modification, for example, when the filer or his or her immediate family member has received a threat, has a no contact order, or presents a similar personal safety concern.</p> <p>A prospective modification to allow nondisclosure of a residential address may be granted if the applicant or an immediate family member has received a threat, been issued a no contact order or presents a similar personal safety concern.</p>
Supporting Documents (attached)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Current F-1 (filed March 26, 2019) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modification Application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prior order (if renewal) – March 22, 2018
Reason(s) for Modification (as stated by filer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judge Sussman is requesting a renewal of a reporting modification that would exempt her from disclosing her personal residential address information, including street address, parcel number, or legal description, on her Personal Financial Affairs Statement covering calendar year 2018.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Judge Sussman is also requesting a renewal of a reporting modification that would exempt her from disclosing the address, parcel number, or legal description of real estate held in a family LLC in which she has a 18.6% ownership interest.• Judge Sussman stated that she presides over a variety of dockets that include persons charged with aggressive, violent and stalking behavior. She presides over cases including anti-harassment, domestic violence, and criminal assaults. She sentences people to extended time in jail and sets bail. She stated that persons that appear before her are often charged with violent, aggressive, and erratic behavior including threats and use of weapons.• Judge Sussman is also requesting a modification that would exempt her from disclosing the real estate address information concerning real estate owned by M & H Family RRE#2, LLC. She stated the property owned by this entity is the residential address of a family member. The family member and Judge Sussman want to keep the address private due to concerns for safety.• Judge Sussman stated that the property where the family member resides is not located in Pierce County and she has no decision-making authority over this real estate.• Judge Sussman stated that disclosing the address of her personal residence creates a “manifestly unreasonable hardship” on her and her family, in light of the types of cases she presides over and the sentencing of people that have exhibited erratic, violent, and mental instability.• Judge Sussman cited two specific threats made to her in prior years. The first incident was made by a defendant who threatened harm to her in a letter after she would not reconsider and dismiss his criminal case. The second incident involved a mentally unstable individual whom she ordered to undergo a competency evaluation. During the competency evaluation, the defendant made threats to harm both her and her family.• Judge Sussman stated that she is requesting a modification for the safety of herself and her family.
Other Issues	<p>Judge Sussman disclosed creditor information, payment terms, security given and mortgage amounts for her personal residence.</p> <p>Judge Sussman has agreed to recuse herself if a matter came before her involving a conflict of interest between the two properties listed in her request and Pierce County District Court.</p>