



State of Kansas

**Office of Judicial Administration**

Kansas Judicial Center

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House Judiciary Committee  
Written Testimony in Support of SB 331

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District Court Clerk Specialist

Chairman Patton and committee members, thank you for allowing me to provide testimony in support of SB 331. I'm Krisena Silva, District Court Clerk Specialist in the Office of Judicial Administration.

Judicial branch employees are subject to being contacted at their residences because their names are required on paperwork sent to the litigants or members of the public, including but not limited to signatures, court file stamps, or a court envelope. Our amendment requests the addition of all judicial branch employees as parties that may request their identifying information be removed from applicable public databases.

Examples of judicial branch employees being contacted by members of the public outside of work:

- Criminal defendants have contacted court clerks at their homes to tell their side of the story or to complain about law enforcement, county attorneys, and judges;
- Judicial branch employees have been contacted at home by inmates who are in the custody of the Secretary of Corrections to state why they were wrongfully convicted;
- Prospective jurors have contacted court clerks at their homes to state why they need to be excused from jury duty;
- Parents of juveniles have contacted court personnel at their homes concerning their child's case;
- Employees in the Office of Judicial Administration have been contacted outside of work by the media for positions on judicial matters; and

- Instead of contacting their attorney, a party in a divorce proceeding went to a court clerk's home for an explanation on what the temporary order that was filed in their case actually meant.

These are just a few examples of judicial branch employees being contacted at their homes by individuals who have matters pending in the judicial system. Like other public sector employees identified in the bill and underlying statute, the protection afforded those employees should be extended to all judicial branch employees.

We respectfully request that the committee pass SB 331 favorably, as amended by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this testimony to the committee.