

Submitter: Haley Olson
On Behalf Of: Strawberry Mountain Law
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB993

I have worked in public defense for five years, with the last three years as a defense investigator. Throughout my experience, I have encountered significant challenges due to the lack of access to inmate booking photos. These images are essential for maintaining accurate client files, establishing rapport with clients, and conducting thorough investigations, particularly in cases involving eyewitness identification. Additionally, booking photos play a critical role in conflict checks, as clients often use multiple names. Being able to verify a client's identity before establishing an attorney-client relationship is crucial to ensuring ethical and effective representation.