

## **Proposed amendments to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Rule 2.140 (Amending Rules of Court)**

The Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee, in compliance with Florida Rule of General Application and Judicial Administration 2.140(b)(2), invite comments on proposed Rule 2.140 (Amending Rules of Court). Interested persons have until August 31, 2023, to submit any comments, electronically, to Kristin Ann Norse, Chair of the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee, at [knorse@kmf-law.com](mailto:knorse@kmf-law.com), and to bar attorney liaison, Kelly Smith, at [ksmith@floridabar.org](mailto:ksmith@floridabar.org).

The amendments reorganize the rule. Adds new subdivision (a)(1) to state the court's authority. In subdivisions (a)(2), (a)(3), (g), (h), and (i), changes the supreme court's website to supreme court's docket is at staff's recommendation to address the move to the new ACIS system. In subdivision (a)(3), deletes the provision that copies of minutes must be provided to the clerk of the supreme court, Florida Bar board of governors, and proponents of proposals at that meeting. In subdivision (d)(6)(A), adds that reports must be provided to the Florida Bar Board of Governors during the comment phase. Deletes current subdivision (b)(3) requiring the board of governors to consider proposals and vote to recommend acceptance, rejection, or amendment. New subdivision (e)(1)(C) provides that a copy of the report filed with the court be provided to the Florida Bar board of governors. Deletes current subdivision (b)(4)(F) regarding the Florida Bar board of Governors' dissenting views consistent with the Kiel Report recommendation. In subdivision (g), deletes the requirement of publication in the print version of *The Florida Bar News*. Deletes current subdivision (a)(5) provision that copies of minutes must be provided to the clerk of the supreme court, Florida Bar board of governors, and proponents of proposals at that meeting. Deletes current subdivision (c) that allows a proponent of a rule rejected by a court rules committee to submit the proposal to The Florida Bar Board of Governors. Deletes current subdivision (j) on effective date.

## **RULE 2.140. AMENDING RULES OF COURT**

~~(a) — Amendments Generally.~~ The following procedure shall be followed for consideration of rule amendments generally other than those adopted under subdivisions (d), (e), (f), and (g):

~~(1) — Suggestions for court rules, amendments to them, or abrogation of them may be made by any person.~~

~~(2) — Rule suggestions shall be submitted to the clerk of the supreme court, the committee chair(s) of a Florida Bar committee listed in subdivision (a)(3), or the Bar staff liaison of The Florida Bar in writing and shall include a general description of the proposed rule change or a specified proposed change in content. The clerk of the supreme court shall refer proposals to the appropriate committee under subdivision (a)(3).~~

~~(3) — The Florida Bar shall appoint the following committees to consider rule proposals: Civil Procedure Rules Committee, Criminal Procedure Rules Committee, Small Claims Rules Committee, Traffic Court Rules Committee, Appellate Court Rules Committee, Juvenile Court Rules Committee, Code and Rules of Evidence Committee, Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee, Probate Rules Committee, and Family Law Rules Committee.~~

~~(4) — Each committee shall be composed of attorneys and judges with extensive experience and training in the committee's area of concentration. Members of the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee shall also have previous rules committee experience or substantial experience in the administration of the Florida court system. The chair of each rules committee shall appoint one of its members to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee to serve as a regular member of the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee to facilitate and implement routine periodic reporting by and to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee on the development and progress of rule proposals under consideration and their potential impact on other existing or proposed rules. The members of each~~

~~rules committee shall serve for 3-year staggered terms, except members appointed by a rules committee chair to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee who shall serve at the pleasure of the respective rules committee chairs. The president elect of The Florida Bar shall appoint sitting members of each rules committee to serve as chair(s) and vice chair(s) for each successive year.~~

~~(5) The rules committees may originate proposals and shall regularly review and reevaluate the rules to advance orderly and inexpensive procedures for the administration of justice. The committees shall consider and vote on each proposal. The rules committees may accept or reject proposed amendments or may amend proposals. The rules committees shall prepare meeting agendas and minutes reflecting the status of rules proposals under consideration and actions taken. Copies of the minutes shall be furnished to the clerk of the supreme court, to the board of governors of The Florida Bar, and to the proponent of any proposal considered at the meeting. Each rules committee shall furnish promptly and timely to every other rules committee all meeting agendas and all minutes or other record of action taken.~~

~~(6) The Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee shall serve as the central rules coordinating committee. All committees shall provide a copy of any proposed rules changes to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee within 30 days of a committee's affirmative vote to recommend the proposed change to the supreme court. The Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee shall then refer all proposed rules changes to those rules committees that might be affected by the proposed change.~~

~~(7) Whenever the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee receives a request to coordinate the submission of a single comprehensive report of proposed rule amendments on behalf of multiple rules committees, the general procedure shall be as follows:~~

~~(A) The subcommittee chairs handling the matter for each committee will constitute an ad hoc committee to discuss~~

~~the various committees' recommendations and to formulate time frames for the joint response. The chair of the ad hoc committee will be the assigned Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee subcommittee chair.~~

~~(B) — At the conclusion of the work of the ad hoc committee, a proposed joint response will be prepared by the ad hoc committee and distributed to the committee chairs for each committee's review and final comments.~~

~~(C) — The Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee shall be responsible for filing the comprehensive final report.~~

~~**(b) — Rules Proposals.**~~

~~(1) — Each rules committee may report proposed rule changes to the supreme court whenever the committee determines rules changes are needed.~~

~~(2) — Before filing a report of proposed rule changes with the supreme court, the committee report shall be furnished to the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the President of the Florida Senate, and the chairs of the House and Senate committees as designated by the Speaker and the President, and published on the website of The Florida Bar and in *The Florida Bar News*. Any person desiring to comment upon proposed rule changes shall submit written comments to the appropriate committee chair(s) as provided in the notice. The committee shall consider any comments submitted. Any changes made shall be furnished to the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the President of the Florida Senate, and the chairs of the House and Senate committees as designated by the Speaker and the President, and published on the website of The Florida Bar and in *The Florida Bar News*. Any person desiring to comment thereafter shall submit written comments to the supreme court in accordance with subdivision (b)(6).~~

~~(3) — After review of comments received and prior to the filing of a report by a committee, the board of governors shall~~

~~consider the proposals and shall vote on each proposal to recommend acceptance, rejection, or amendment.~~

~~(4) The committee and the executive director of The Florida Bar shall file the report of the proposed rule changes with the supreme court. The committee may amend its recommendations to coincide with the recommendations of the board of governors or may decline to do so or may amend its recommendations in another manner. Any such amendments also shall be reported to the supreme court. The report and proposed rule changes must conform to the Guidelines for Rules Submissions approved by administrative order and posted on the websites of the supreme court and The Florida Bar. Consistent with the requirements that are fully set forth in the Guidelines, the report shall include:~~

~~(A) a list of the proposed changes, together with a detailed explanation of each proposal that includes a narrative description of how each amendment changes the language of the rule and a thorough discussion of the reason for each change;~~

~~(B) the final numerical voting record of the proposals in the committee;~~

~~(C) the name and address of the proponent of each change, if other than a member of the rules committee;~~

~~(D) a report of the action taken by the committee on comments submitted in accordance with subdivision (b)(2);~~

~~(E) a report of the action and voting record of the board of governors;~~

~~(F) any dissenting views of the committee and, if available, of the board; and~~

~~(G) an appendix containing all comments submitted to the committee, all relevant background documents, the proposed amendments in legislative format, and a two-column chart setting forth the proposed changes in legislative format in the~~

~~left column and a brief summary of the explanation of each change given in the report in the right column.~~

~~The report and the proposed rule changes shall be filed with the supreme court in an electronic format approved by the supreme court.~~

~~(5) — If oral argument is deemed necessary, the supreme court shall establish a date for oral argument on the proposals. Notice of the oral argument on the proposals and a copy of the proposals shall be furnished to the affected committee chair(s) and vice chair(s), the executive director and staff liaison of The Florida Bar, all members of the Judicial Management Council, the clerk and chief judge of each district court of appeal, the clerk and chief judge of each judicial circuit, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the President of the Florida Senate, the chairs of the House and Senate committees as designated by the Speaker and the President, and any person who has asked in writing filed with the clerk of the supreme court for a copy of the notice. The clerk may provide the notice electronically. The recommendations or a resume of them shall be published on the websites of the supreme court and The Florida Bar and in *The Florida Bar News* before the oral argument or consideration of the proposals without oral argument. Notice of the oral argument, if scheduled, shall also be published on the website of the supreme court.~~

~~(6) — Within the time allowed for comments set by the supreme court, any person may file comments concerning the proposals. All comments and other submissions by interested persons shall be filed with the clerk of the supreme court and served on the chair(s) of the appropriate rules committee, the Bar staff liaison, and on the proponent of the rule change if other than a member of the rules committee. The chair(s) of the rules committee and the executive director of The Florida Bar shall file a response to all comments within the time period set by the court. All comments and other submissions regarding the rule change proposals shall be filed in an approved electronic format with the supreme court. As soon as practicable after the date of filing, the clerk of the supreme court shall publish on the website of the supreme court all~~

~~comments and the responses of the chair(s) of the rules committee that have been filed concerning the proposals. All requests or submissions by a rules committee made in connection with a pending rule change proposal shall be filed with the clerk of the supreme court and thereafter published by the clerk of the supreme court on the websites of the supreme court and The Florida Bar.~~

~~(7) Rules changes adopted by the court shall be made effective either July 1 of the year of their adoption or January 1 of the year following their adoption or on such other date as may be requested by the committee or set by the court. The supreme court may permit motions for rehearing to be filed on behalf of any person who filed a comment, The Florida Bar, any bar association, and the affected committee.~~

~~**(c) Rejected Proposals.** If a committee rejects a proposal, the proponent may submit the proposed rule to the board of governors and shall notify the chair(s) and vice chair(s) of the affected committee of the submission of the proposed rule to the board of governors. Minority reports of committees are allowed and may be submitted to both the board of governors and the supreme court.~~

~~**(d) Amendments by Court.** The supreme court, with or without notice, may change court rules, on its own motion, at any time without reference to a rules committee for recommendations. The rule changes must conform to the Rules Style Guide contained in the Guidelines for Rules Submissions approved by administrative order and posted on the websites of the supreme court and The Florida Bar. The change may become effective immediately or at a future time. In either event, the court shall give notice of and fix a date for further consideration of the change. Any person may file comments concerning the change, seeking its abrogation or a delay in the effective date, in accordance with the procedures set forth in subdivision (b)(6). The court may allow oral argument on the proposal or change. Notice of the oral argument, if scheduled, on the change and a copy of the change shall be furnished to the affected committee chair(s) and vice chair(s), the executive director and staff liaison of The Florida Bar, all members of the Judicial~~

~~Management Council, the clerk and chief judge of each district court of appeal, the clerk and chief judge of each judicial circuit, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the President of the Florida Senate, the chairs of the House and Senate committees as designated by the Speaker and the President, and any person who has asked in writing filed with the clerk of the supreme court for a copy of the notice. The clerk may provide the notice electronically. Notice of the change shall be published on the websites of the supreme court and The Florida Bar, and in The Florida Bar News either before or after the change is adopted. Notice of the oral argument, if scheduled, shall also be published on the website of the supreme court.~~

~~**(e) — Expedited Proposals and Proposals in Response to Legislative Changes by Rules Committees.** If, in the opinion of a committee, a proposal warrants expedited consideration or a rule amendment is necessary due to changes in legislation, and the board of governors concurs, proposals may be made to the supreme court using the committee's fast track procedures. The report and proposed rule changes may be filed without prior publication for comment and must conform to the Guidelines for Rules Submissions approved by administrative order and posted on the websites of the supreme court and The Florida Bar. The rules committees' fast track procedures shall be used to address legislative changes to ensure that ordinarily any resulting proposed rule amendments can be adopted by the court before the effective date of the legislation. If the court agrees that a proposal warrants expedited consideration or a rule change is necessary due to a legislative change, the court may publish the rule amendment for comment after adopting it or may set a time for oral argument or for consideration of the proposal without oral argument. Notice of the oral argument on the proposals, if scheduled before or after adoption, and a copy of the proposals shall be furnished to the affected committee chair(s) and vice chair(s), the executive director and the staff liaison of The Florida Bar, all members of the Judicial Management Council, the clerk and chief judge of each district court of appeal, the clerk and chief judge of each judicial circuit, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the President of the Florida Senate, the chairs of the House and Senate committees~~



~~as designated by the Speaker and the President, and any person who has asked in writing filed with the clerk of the supreme court for a copy of the notice. The clerk may provide the notice electronically. Prior to or after their adoption, the recommendations or a resume of them shall be published on the websites of the supreme court and The Florida Bar, and in The Florida Bar News. Any person may file comments concerning the changes, in accordance with the procedures set forth in subdivision (b)(6). Notice of the oral argument, if scheduled, shall also be published on the website of the supreme court.~~

~~**(f) — Request by Court.** The supreme court may refer a specific rules proposal or issue to a rules committee for consideration and may require the committee to report its recommendation with the recommendations of the board of governors. All requests or submissions by a rules committee made in connection with a request under this subdivision shall be filed with or submitted to the clerk of the supreme court as provided in this subdivision.~~

~~(1) — *Recommended Rule Changes.* A rule change recommended in response to a request under this subdivision shall be reported to the supreme court in accordance with subdivision (b), unless the court directs or the committee determines and the board of governors agrees that a proposed rule change warrants expedited consideration. If a recommended change warrants expedited consideration, the subdivision (e) procedures shall apply. A report filed under this subdivision shall state that it is filed in response to a request by the court under this subdivision.~~

~~(2) — *No Action Recommendations.* If the court refers a matter to a rules committee for consideration only and does not direct the committee to propose a rule change, and after considering the matter referred the committee determines that no rule change is warranted, the committee shall submit a “no action report” to the court explaining its recommendation that no rule change is needed. A no action recommendation should not be included in a report proposing rule changes filed under any other subdivision of this rule. After the court considers the~~

~~recommendation, the clerk shall notify the rules committee chair(s) and the executive director and the staff liaison of The Florida Bar whether any further action is required of the committee.~~

~~**(g) — Amendments to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration.**~~

~~(1) — *Amendments Without Referral to Rules Committee.* Changes to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration contained in Part II, State Court Administration, of these rules, and rules 2.310, and 2.320, contained in Part III, Judicial Officers, generally will be considered and adopted by the supreme court without reference to or proposal from the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee. The supreme court may amend rules under this subdivision at any time, with or without notice. If a change is made without notice, the court shall fix a date for future consideration of the change and the change shall be published on the websites of the supreme court and The Florida Bar, and in *The Florida Bar News*. Any person may file comments concerning the change, in accordance with the procedures set forth in subdivision (b)(6). The court may hear oral argument on the change. Notice of the oral argument on the change, if scheduled, and a copy of the change shall be provided in accordance with subdivision (d).~~

~~(2) — *Other Amendments.* Amendments to all other Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration shall be referred to or proposed by the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee and adopted by the supreme court as provided in subdivisions (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f).~~

~~**(h) — Local Rules Proposed by Trial Courts.** The foregoing procedure shall not apply to local rules proposed by a majority of circuit and county judges in the circuit. The chief justice of the supreme court may appoint a Local Rule Advisory Committee to consider and make recommendations to the court concerning local rules and administrative orders submitted pursuant to rule 2.215(e).~~

**(a) Amendments by Court.**

(1) Authority of Court. The supreme court has sole authority to amend court rules. The supreme court, with or without notice, may change any court rules, on its own motion, at any time without reference to a rules committee for recommendations.

(2) Amendments to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration. Changes to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration contained in Part II, State Court Administration, of these rules, and rules 2.310, and 2.320, contained in Part III, Judicial Officers, generally will be considered and adopted by the supreme court without reference to or proposal from the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee. If a change is made without notice, the court will set a date for future consideration of the change and the change will be published on the supreme court's docket, The Florida Bar's website, and in the print version of The Florida Bar News. Any person may file comments concerning the change, in accordance with the procedures set forth in this rule below. The supreme court may hear oral argument on the change. The supreme court clerk will must provide notice of the oral argument on the change, if scheduled, in accordance with the provision for oral argument in this rule below. The supreme court will refer amendments to all other Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration as provided elsewhere in this rule.

(3) Other Amendments by the Court. Changes to court rules must conform to the Rules Style Guide contained in the Guidelines for Rules Submissions approved by administrative order and posted on the websites of the supreme court and The Florida. The change may become effective immediately or at a future time. In either event, the supreme court will give notice of and set a date for further consideration of the change. Any person may file comments concerning the change, seeking its abrogation or a delay in the effective date, in accordance with the procedures set forth for comments elsewhere in this rule. The supreme court may allow oral argument on the proposal or change. The supreme court clerk will must provide notice of the oral argument, if scheduled, on the supreme court's docket.

**(b) Local Rules by Trial Courts.** The procedures set forth in this rule do not apply to local rules proposed by a majority of circuit and county judges in the circuit. The chief justice of the supreme court may appoint a Local Rule Advisory Committee to consider and make recommendations to the supreme court concerning local rules and administrative orders submitted under rule 2.215(e).

**(c) Court Rules Committees.**

(1) Court Rules Committees. The Florida Bar president-elect appoints members of the following committees to consider proposals to court rules:

(A) Civil Procedure Rules Committee;

(B) Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee;

(C) Criminal Procedure Rules Committee;

(D) Probate Rules Committee;

(E) Traffic Court Rules Committee;

(F) Small Claims Rules Committee;

(G) Juvenile Court Rules Committee;

(H) Appellate Court Rules Committee;

(I) Family Law Rules Committee; and

(J) Code and Rules of Evidence Committee.

(2) Committee Composition. The Florida Bar president-elect appoints members of each rules committee who serve staggered 3-year terms. The Florida Bar president-elect appoints sitting rules committee members to serve as chair and vice chairs of that committee for the next year. Committee members must be lawyers and judges with extensive experience and training in the committee's area of concentration. Members of the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee also must have

previous rules committee experience or substantial experience in the administration of the Florida court system. The chair of each rules committee must appoint 1 of its members to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee to serve at the discretion of that chair as a regular member of the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee. These appointed members facilitate and implement routine periodic reporting by and to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee on the development and progress of rule proposals under consideration and their potential impact on other existing or proposed rules.

**(d) Court Rules Committee Procedure.**

(1) Any person may suggest new court rules, amendments to court rules, or deletion of court rules.

(2) Persons proposing amendments to court rules must submit them in writing to the clerk of the supreme court, the committee chair of the appropriate Florida Bar rules committee, or the Florida Bar staff liaison to the appropriate rules committee. The proposal must include a general description of the proposed rule change or a specified proposed change in content. The clerk of the supreme court refers proposals to the appropriate Florida Bar rules committee.

(3) Rules committees may originate proposals and must regularly review and reevaluate the rules to advance orderly and inexpensive procedures for the administration of justice. The committees must consider and vote on each proposal. The rules committees may accept or reject proposed amendments or may amend proposals. The rules committees must prepare meeting agendas and minutes reflecting the status of rules proposals under consideration and actions taken. ~~Each rules committee must provide all meeting agendas and all minutes or other record of action taken promptly and timely to every other rules committee.~~

(4) The Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee serves as the central rules coordinating committee. All committees must provide a copy of any proposed rules changes to

the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee within 30 days of a committee's affirmative vote to recommend the proposed change to the supreme court. The Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee then refers all proposed rules changes to those rules committees that might be affected by the proposed change.

(5) Whenever the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee receives a request to coordinate the submission of a single comprehensive report of proposed rule amendments on behalf of multiple rules committees, the general procedure is as follows.

(A) The subcommittee chairs handling the matter for each committee will constitute an ad hoc committee to discuss the various committees' recommendations and to formulate time frames for the joint response. The chair of the ad hoc committee will be the assigned Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee subcommittee chair.

(B) At the conclusion of the work of the ad hoc committee, a proposed joint response will be prepared by the ad hoc committee and distributed to the committee chairs for each committee's review and final comments.

(C) The Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee files the comprehensive final report.

(6) Notice and Comments.

(A) Regular Report. A rules committee must provide proposed amendments to the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the President of the Florida Senate, the chairs of the House and Senate committees as designated by the Speaker and the President, and The Florida Bar Board of Governors. The amendments must be published on The Florida Bar's website. The amendments must also be published in the print version of The Florida Bar News, but publication in print is not required before consideration of any comments or before filing a report. The Florida Bar Board of Governors or any person may submit written comments to the appropriate committee chair as provided in the

notice. The committee must consider any comments submitted. The rules committee must provide copies of any changes to the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the President of the Florida Senate, the chairs of the House and Senate committees as designated by the Speaker and the President, and The Florida Bar Board of Governors. Any changes must be published on The Florida Bar website. The amendments must also be published in the print version of The Florida Bar News, but publication in print is not required before consideration of any comments or before filing a report. Any subsequent comments must be submitted to the supreme court after the report is filed.

(B) Expedited Report. A report and proposed rule changes using rules committee fast-track procedures may be filed without prior publication for comment.

**(e) Filing.**

(1) Committee Rules Proposals.

(A) Regular Report. Each rules committee may file a report ~~proposed~~proposing rule changes to the supreme court whenever the committee determines rules changes are needed.

(B) Expedited Proposals and Proposals in Response to Legislative Changes. A rules committee may propose amendments to the supreme court using the committee's fast-track procedures if the committee determines expedited consideration is warranted or a rule amendment is necessary due to changes in legislation. The report and proposed rule changes may be filed without prior publication for comment and must conform to the Guidelines for Rules Submissions approved by administrative order and posted on the websites of the supreme court and The Florida Bar. The rules committees' fast-track procedures must be used to address legislative changes to ensure that ordinarily any resulting proposed rule amendments can be adopted by the supreme court before the effective date of the legislation. If the supreme court agrees that a proposal warrants expedited consideration or a rule change is necessary due to a legislative change, the supreme court may publish the rule amendment for comment after adopting it or may

set a time for oral argument or for consideration of the proposal without oral argument.

(C) Notice to Board of Governors. Each rules committee must provide to The Florida Bar Board of Governors a copy of the report filed on filing with the supreme court to The Florida Bar Board of Governors on filing.

(2) Request by Supreme Court. The supreme court may refer a specific rules proposal or issue to a rules committee for consideration and may require the committee to report its recommendation. All rules committee requests or submissions made in connection with a request under this subdivision must be filed with or submitted to the clerk of the supreme court as provided below.

(A) Recommended Rule Changes. Rules committees may file proposed amendments in response to a supreme court referral using either normal or fast-track procedures under this rule. A report filed under this subdivision must state that it is filed in response to a request by the supreme court under this subdivision.

(B) No Action Recommendations. The rules committee must submit a “no action report” to the supreme court explaining its recommendation that no rule change is needed if: the supreme court refers a matter to a rules committee for consideration only; the supreme court does not direct the committee to propose a rule change; and the committee determines no action is warranted. A rules committee must not include a no action recommendation in a report proposing rule changes filed under any other subdivision of this rule. After the supreme court considers the recommendation, the supreme court clerk must notify the rules committee chair and The Florida Bar’s executive director and staff liaison whether the supreme court requires any further rules committee action.

**(f) Report Format.** The committee and The Florida Bar’s executive director file the report of the proposed rule changes with the supreme court in an electronic format approved by the supreme court. The report and proposed rule changes must conform to the Guidelines for Rules Submissions approved by administrative order



and posted on the websites of the supreme court and The Florida Bar. The report must include:

(1) a list of the proposed changes with a detailed explanation of each proposal that includes a narrative description of how each amendment changes the language of the rule and a thorough discussion of the reason for each change;

(2) the final numerical voting record of the proposals in the committee;

(3) the name and address of the proponent of each change, if other than a member of the rules committee;

(4) a report of the action taken by the committee on comments submitted in accordance with this rule;

(5) any dissenting views of the committee; and

(6) an appendix containing all comments submitted to the committee, all relevant background documents, the proposed amendments in legislative format, and a 2-column chart setting forth the proposed changes in legislative format in the left column and a brief summary of the explanation of each change given in the report in the right column.

**(g) Notice.**

(1) *Rules Committee Regular Proposals.* The proposals or a summary must be published on the supreme court's docket and The Florida Bar's website before oral argument or consideration of the proposal without oral argument. The proposals or a summary must also be published in the print version of The Florida Bar *News*, but publication in print is not required before oral argument or consideration of the proposal without oral argument.

(2) *Rules Committee Expedited Proposals.* A rules committee report and proposed rule changes using the committees fast-track procedures may be filed without prior publication for comment. The full amendments proposal or a summary must be published on the supreme court's docket, The Florida Bar's website, and in the print

version of The Florida Bar *News* either before or after their adoption.

**(h) Comments.** Any person may file comments on any rules change proposal within the time period set by the supreme court. All comments and other submissions by interested persons must be filed in an approved electronic format with the clerk of the supreme court and served on the chair of each appropriate rules committee, that committee's bar staff liaison, and on the proponent of the rule change if other than a member of the rules committee. The rules committee chair and The Florida Bar's executive director must file a response to all comments within the time period set by the court in an approved electronic format with the clerk of the supreme court. The clerk of the supreme court will must publish all comments and responses on the supreme court's docket as soon as practicable after filing.

**(i) Oral Argument.** The supreme court sets oral argument as the court determines necessary on the court's own proposals or on rules committee proposals. The clerk of the supreme court must send notice of the oral argument and its date with a copy of the relevant proposal to each affected committee chair and vice chair, the bar's executive director and staff liaison, all members of the Judicial Management Council, the clerk and chief judge of each district court of appeal, the clerk and chief judge of each judicial circuit, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the President of the Florida Senate, the chairs of the House and Senate committees as designated by the Speaker and the President, and any person who has asked in writing filed with the clerk of the supreme court for a copy of the notice. The notice may be sent electronically. The clerk of the supreme court will must publish notice of the oral argument on the supreme court's docket.

**(j) Motions for Rehearing.** The supreme court may permit motions for rehearing to be filed on behalf of any person who filed a comment, The Florida Bar, any bar association, and the affected committee.