

**Practice Book Amendments
Rules of Professional Conduct
Superior Court Rules**

July 14, 2020

NOTICE

SUPERIOR COURT

On June 26, 2020, the judges of the Superior Court adopted the amendments to the Practice Book that are contained herein.

These amendments become effective on January 1, 2021, except that the amendments to Sections 3-8 and 35a-21 become effective on July 14, 2020, upon promulgation, by being published in the Connecticut Law Journal, on an interim basis, pursuant to Section 1-9 of the Practice Book.

In addition to the amendments contained herein, Sections 2-11A, 2-27A, 6-1 and 35a-21 were amended or suspended pursuant to the emergency authority of the Rules Committee under Sec. 1-9B, and, thereafter, those changes were adopted or modified by the judges of the Superior Court. Please refer to the Notice contained in this edition of the Connecticut Law Journal on p. 75PB for further information on the amendments or suspensions to Sections 2-11A, 2-27A, 6-1 and 35a-21.

Attest:

Joseph J. Del Ciampo
Director of Legal Services

INTRODUCTION

Contained herein are amendments to the Rules of Professional Conduct and the Superior Court Rules. These amendments are indicated by brackets for deletions and underlines for added language.

This material should be used as a supplement to the Practice Book until the next edition becomes available.

The Amendment Notes to the Rules of Professional Conduct and the Commentaries to the Superior Court Rules are for informational purposes only.

Rules Committee of the
Superior Court

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AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**Rule 7.1. Communications concerning a Lawyer's Services**

A lawyer shall not make a false or misleading communication about the lawyer or the lawyer's services. A communication is false or misleading if it contains a material misrepresentation of fact or law, or omits a fact necessary to make the statement considered as a whole not materially misleading.

COMMENTARY: This Rule governs all communications about a lawyer's services, including advertising. Whatever means are used to make known a lawyer's services, statements about them must be truthful. Misleading truthful statements are prohibited by this Rule. A truthful statement is misleading if it omits a fact necessary to make the lawyer's communication considered as a whole not materially misleading. A truthful statement is misleading if a substantial likelihood exists that it will lead a reasonable person to formulate a specific conclusion about the lawyer or the lawyer's services for which there is no reasonable factual foundation. A truthful statement also is misleading if presented in a way that leads a reasonable person to believe the lawyer's communication requires that person to take further action when, in fact, no action is required.

A communication that truthfully reports a lawyer's achievements on behalf of clients or former clients may be misleading if presented without a disclaimer indicating that the communicated result is based upon the particular facts of that case so as to lead a reasonable person to form an unjustified expectation that the same results could be obtained for other clients in similar matters without reference to the specific factual and legal circumstances of each client's case.

Similarly, an unsubstantiated claim about a lawyer's or law firm's services or fees, or an unsubstantiated comparison of the lawyer's services or fees with those of other lawyers or law firms may be misleading if presented with such specificity as would lead a reasonable person to conclude that the comparison or claim can be substantiated. The inclusion of an appropriate disclaimer or qualifying language may preclude a finding that a statement is likely to create unjustified expectations or otherwise mislead the public.

[It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation. Rule 8.4 (3).] In addition to the provisions of this Rule, see Rule 8.4 (3) defining professional misconduct to include conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation. See also Rule 8.4 (5) for the prohibition against stating or implying an ability to improperly influence a government agency or official or to achieve results by means that violate the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law.

Firm names, letterhead and professional designations are communications concerning a lawyer's services. A firm may be designated by the names of all or some of its current members, by the names of deceased or retired members where there has been a succession in the firm's identity or by a trade name if it is not false or misleading. A lawyer or law firm also may be designated by a distinctive website address, social media username or comparable professional designation that is not misleading. A law firm name or designation is misleading if it implies a connection with a government agency, with a deceased lawyer who was not a former member of the firm, with a lawyer not associated with the firm or a predecessor firm, with a nonlawyer or

with a public or charitable legal services organization. If a firm uses a trade name that includes a geographical name such as “Springfield Legal Clinic,” an express statement explaining that it is not a public legal aid organization may be required to avoid a misleading implication.

Letterhead identification of the lawyers in the office of the firm shall indicate the jurisdictional limitations on those not licensed to practice in the jurisdiction where the office is located.

A law firm with offices in more than one jurisdiction may use the same name or other professional designation in each jurisdiction.

Lawyers may not imply or hold themselves out as practicing together in one firm when they are not a firm, as defined in Rule 1.0 (d), because to do so would be false and misleading.

It is misleading to use the name of a lawyer holding a public office in the name of a law firm, or in communications on the law firm’s behalf, during any substantial period in which the lawyer is not actively and regularly practicing with the firm.

AMENDMENT NOTE: The revision to this rule was made for clarity.

Rule 7.3. Solicitation of Clients

(a) “Solicitation” or “solicit” denotes a communication initiated by or on behalf of a lawyer or law firm that is directed to a specific person the lawyer knows or reasonably should know needs legal services in a particular matter and that offers to provide, or reasonably can be understood as offering to provide, legal services for that matter.

(b) A lawyer shall not solicit professional employment by live person-to-person contact when a significant motive for the lawyer’s doing so is the lawyer’s or law firm’s pecuniary gain unless the contact is:

(1) With a lawyer or a person who has a family, close personal or prior business or professional relationship with the lawyer;

(2) Under the auspices of a public or charitable legal services organization;

(3) Under the auspices of a bona fide political, social, civic, fraternal, employee or trade organization whose purposes include but are not limited to providing or recommending legal services, if the legal services are related to the principal purposes of the organization;

(4) With a person who routinely uses for business purposes the type of legal services offered by the lawyer or with a business organization, a not-for-profit organization or governmental body and the lawyer seeks to provide services related to the organization.

(c) A lawyer shall not solicit professional employment even when not otherwise prohibited by subsection (b) if:

(1) The lawyer knows or reasonably should know that the physical, emotional or mental state of the person makes it unlikely that the person would exercise reasonable judgment in employing a lawyer;

(2) The target of the solicitation has made known to the lawyer a desire not to be solicited by the lawyer;

(3) The solicitation involves coercion, duress, fraud, overreaching, harassment, intimidation or undue influence; or

(4) The solicitation concerns an action for personal injury or wrongful death or otherwise relates to an accident or disaster involving the person to whom the solicitation is addressed or a relative of that person, unless the accident or disaster occurred more than forty days prior to the mailing of the solicitation, or the recipient is a person or entity within the scope of subsection (b) of this Rule.

(d) This Rule does not prohibit communications authorized by law or ordered by a court or other tribunal.

(e) Every written solicitation, as well as any solicitation by audio or video recording, or other electronic means, used by a lawyer for the purpose of obtaining professional employment from anyone known to be in need of legal services in a particular matter, must be clearly and prominently labeled “Advertising Material” in red ink on the first page of any written solicitation and the lower left corner of the outside envelope or container, if any, and at the beginning and ending of any solicitation by audio or video recording or other electronic means. If the written solicitation is in the form of a self-mailing brochure or pamphlet, the label “Advertising Material” in red ink shall appear on the address panel of the brochure or pamphlet. Communications solicited by clients or any other person, or if the recipient is a person or entity within the scope of subsection (b) of this Rule, need not contain such marks. No reference shall be made in the solicitation to the solicitation having any kind of approval from the Connecticut bar. Such written solicitations shall be sent only by regular United States mail, not by registered mail or other forms of restricted delivery.

(f) Notwithstanding the prohibitions in this Rule, a lawyer may participate with a prepaid or group legal service plan operated by an organization not owned or directed by the lawyer which uses live person-to-person contact to enroll members or sell subscriptions for the plan from persons who are not known to need legal services in a particular matter covered by the plan.

COMMENTARY: Subsection (b) prohibits a lawyer from soliciting professional employment by live person-to-person contact when a significant motive for the lawyer's doing so is the lawyer's or the law firm's pecuniary gain. A lawyer's communication is not a solicitation if it is directed to the general public, such as through a billboard, an Internet banner advertisement, a website or a television commercial, or if it is in response to a request for information or is automatically generated in response to electronic searches.

"Live person-to-person contact" means in-person, face-to-face, live telephone and other real-time visual or auditory person-to-person communications where the person is subject to a direct personal encounter without time for reflection. Such person-to-person contact does not include chat rooms, text messages or other written communications that recipients may easily disregard. A potential for overreaching exists when a lawyer, seeking pecuniary gain, solicits a person known to be in need of legal services. This form of contact subjects a person to the private importuning of the trained advocate in a direct interpersonal encounter. The person, who may already feel overwhelmed by the circumstances giving rise to the need for legal services, may find it difficult to fully evaluate all available alternatives with reasoned judgment and appropriate self-interest in the face of the lawyer's presence and insistence upon an immediate response. The situation is fraught with the possibility of undue influence, intimidation, and overreaching.

The potential for overreaching inherent in live person-to-person contact justifies its prohibition, since lawyers have alternative means of conveying necessary information. In particular, communications can be mailed or transmitted by e-mail or other electronic means that do

not violate other laws. These forms of communications make it possible for the public to be informed about the need for legal services, and about the qualifications of available lawyers and law firms, without subjecting the public to live person-to-person persuasion that may overwhelm a person's judgment.

The contents of live person-to-person contact can be disputed and may not be subject to a third-party scrutiny. Consequently, they are much more likely to approach (and occasionally cross) the dividing line between accurate representations and those that are false and misleading.

There is far less likelihood that a lawyer would engage in overreaching against a former client, or a person with whom the lawyer has a close personal, family, business or professional relationship, or in situations in which the lawyer is motivated by considerations other than the lawyer's pecuniary gain. Nor is there a serious potential for overreaching when the person contacted is a lawyer or is known to routinely use the type of legal services involved for business purposes. Examples include persons who routinely hire outside counsel to represent the entity; entrepreneurs who regularly engage business, employment law or intellectual property lawyers; small business proprietors who routinely hire lawyers for lease or contract issues; and other people who routinely retain lawyers for business transactions or formations. Subsection (b) is not intended to prohibit a lawyer from participating in constitutionally protected activities of public or charitable legal service organizations or bona fide political, social, civic, fraternal, employee or trade organizations whose purposes include providing or recommending legal services to their members or beneficiaries.

A solicitation that contains false or misleading information within the meaning of Rule 7.1, that involves coercion, duress or harassment within the meaning of Rule 7.3 (c) (3), or that involves contact with someone who has made known to the lawyer a desire not to be solicited by the lawyer within the meaning of Rule 7.3 (c) (2) is prohibited. Live person-to-person [contact] solicitation of individuals who may be especially vulnerable to coercion or duress [is ordinarily not appropriate], for example, the elderly, those whose first language is not English, or persons with disabilities, is ordinarily not appropriate when a significant motive for the solicitation is pecuniary gain.

This Rule does not prohibit a lawyer from contacting representatives of organizations or groups that may be interested in establishing a group or prepaid legal plan for their members, insureds, beneficiaries or other third parties for the purpose of informing such entities of the availability of and details concerning the plan or arrangement which the lawyer or lawyer's firm is willing to offer. This form of communication is not directed to people who are seeking legal services for themselves. Rather, it is usually addressed to an individual acting in a fiduciary capacity seeking a supplier of legal services for others who may, if they choose, become prospective clients of the lawyer. Under these circumstances, the activity which the lawyer undertakes in communicating with such representatives and the type of information transmitted to the individual are functionally similar to and serve the same purpose as advertising permitted under Rule 7.2.

Communications authorized by law or ordered by a court or tribunal include a notice to potential members of a class in class action litigation.

Subsection (f) of this Rule permits a lawyer to participate with an organization that uses personal contact to solicit members for its group

or prepaid legal service plan, provided that the personal contact is not undertaken by any lawyer who would be a provider of legal services through the plan. The organization must not be owned by or directed (whether as manager or otherwise) by any lawyer or law firm that participates in the plan. For example, subsection (f) would not permit a lawyer to create an organization controlled directly or indirectly by the lawyer and use the organization for the in-person or telephone solicitation of legal employment of the lawyer through memberships in the plan or otherwise. The communication permitted by these organizations also must not be directed to a person known to need legal services in a particular matter, but is to be designed to inform potential plan members generally of another means of affordable legal services. Lawyers who participate in a legal service plan must reasonably ensure that the plan sponsors are in compliance with Rules 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3 (c).

AMENDMENT NOTE: The revisions to the Commentary to this rule are made to clarify that live, person-to-person solicitation of individuals who may be especially vulnerable to coercion or duress is ordinarily not appropriate when a significant motive for the solicitation is pecuniary gain.

AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE SUPERIOR COURT RULES

Sec. 1-10B. Media Coverage of Court Proceedings; In General

(a) The broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing by the media of court proceedings and trials in the Superior Court should be allowed subject to the limitations set out in this section and in Sections 1-11A through 1-11C, inclusive.

(b) No broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing of any of the following proceedings shall be permitted:

- (1) Family relations matters as defined in General Statutes § 46b-1;
 - (2) Juvenile matters as defined in General Statutes § 46b-121;
 - (3) Except as provided in subsection (q) of Section 1-11C, [P]proceedings involving sexual assault;
 - (4) Proceedings involving trade secrets;
 - (5) In jury trials, all proceedings held in the absence of the jury unless the trial court determines that such coverage does not create a risk to any party's rights or other fair trial risks under the circumstances;
 - (6) Proceedings which must be closed to the public to comply with the provisions of state law;
 - (7) Any proceeding that is not held in open court on the record.
- (c) No broadcasting, televising, recording or photographic equipment permitted under these rules shall be operated during a recess in the trial.
- (d) No broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing of conferences involving counsel and the trial judge at the bench or involving counsel and their clients shall be permitted.
- (e) There shall be no broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing of the process of jury selection nor of any juror.

COMMENTARY—2014: The Judicial Branch may provide, at its discretion, within a court facility, a contemporaneous closed-circuit video transmission of any court proceeding for the benefit of media or other spectators, and such a transmission shall not be considered broadcasting or televising by the media under this rule.

COMMENTARY—2020: The changes to this section and to Section 1-11C permit the judicial authority to allow media coverage of a homicide case involving sexual assault, provided that the victim's family affirmatively consents to such coverage. If any member of the victim's

family objects to such coverage or if the victim's family cannot be identified or located, the judicial authority should not allow such coverage.

Sec. 1-11C. Media Coverage of Criminal Proceedings

(a) Except as authorized by Section 1-11A regarding media coverage of arraignments, the broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing by media of criminal proceedings and trials in the Superior Court shall be allowed except as hereinafter precluded or limited and subject to the limitations set forth in Section 1-10B.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, [N]no broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing of trials or proceedings involving sexual offense charges shall be permitted.

(c) As used in this rule, the word "trial" in jury cases shall mean proceedings taking place after the jury has been sworn and in nonjury proceedings commencing with the swearing in of the first witness. "Criminal proceeding" shall mean any hearing or testimony, or any portion thereof, in open court and on the record except an arraignment subject to Section 1-11A.

(d) Unless good cause is shown, any media or pool representative seeking to broadcast, televise, record or photograph a criminal proceeding or trial shall, at least three days prior to the commencement of the proceeding or trial, submit a written notice of media coverage to the administrative judge of the judicial district where the proceeding is to be heard or the case is to be tried. A notice of media coverage submitted on behalf of a pool shall contain the name of each news organization seeking to participate in that pool. The administrative judge shall inform the judicial authority who will hear the proceeding

or who will preside over the trial of the notice, and the judicial authority shall allow such coverage except as otherwise provided.

(e) Any party, attorney, witness or other interested person may object in advance of electronic coverage of a criminal proceeding or trial if there exists a substantial reason to believe that such coverage will undermine the legal rights of a party or will significantly compromise the safety of a witness or other person or impact significant privacy concerns. In the event that the media request camera coverage and, to the extent practicable, notice that an objection to the electronic coverage has been filed, the date, time and location of the hearing on such objection shall be posted on the Judicial Branch website. Any person, including the media, whose rights are at issue in considering whether to allow electronic coverage of the proceeding or trial, may participate in the hearing to determine whether to limit or preclude such coverage. When such objection is filed by any party, attorney, witness or other interested person, the burden of proving that electronic coverage of the criminal proceeding or trial should be limited or precluded shall be on the person who filed the objection.

(f) The judicial authority, in deciding whether to limit or preclude electronic coverage of a criminal proceeding or trial, shall consider all rights at issue and shall limit or preclude such coverage only if there exists a compelling reason to do so, there are no reasonable alternatives to such limitation or preclusion, and such limitation or preclusion is no broader than necessary to protect the compelling interest at issue.

(g) If the judicial authority has a substantial reason to believe that the electronic coverage of a criminal proceeding or trial will undermine the legal rights of a party or will significantly compromise the safety

or privacy concerns of a party, witness or other interested person, and no party, attorney, witness or other interested person has objected to such coverage, the judicial authority shall schedule a hearing to consider limiting or precluding such coverage. To the extent practicable, notice that the judicial authority is considering limiting or precluding electronic coverage of a criminal proceeding or trial, and the date, time and location of the hearing thereon shall be given to the parties and others whose interests may be directly affected by a decision so that they may participate in the hearing and shall be posted on the Judicial Branch website.

(h) Objection raised during the course of a criminal proceeding or trial to the photographing, videotaping or audio recording of specific aspects of the proceeding or trial, or specific individuals or exhibits will be heard and decided by the judicial authority, based on the same standards as set out in subsection (f) of this section used to determine whether to limit or preclude coverage based on objections raised before the start of a criminal proceeding or trial.

(i) The judge presiding over the proceeding or trial in his or her discretion, upon the judge's own motion or at the request of a participant, may prohibit the broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing of any participant at the trial. The judge shall give great weight to requests where the protection of the identity of a person is desirable in the interests of justice, such as for the victims of crime, police informants, undercover agents, relocated witnesses, juveniles and individuals in comparable situations. "Participant" for the purpose of this section shall mean any party, lawyer or witness.

(j) The judicial authority shall articulate the reasons for its decision on whether or not to limit or preclude electronic coverage of a criminal proceeding or trial, and such decision shall be final.

(k) (1) Only one television camera operator, utilizing one portable mounted television camera, shall be permitted in the courtroom. The television camera and operator shall be positioned in such location in the courtroom as shall be designated by the trial judge. Microphones, related wiring and equipment essential for the broadcasting, televising or recording shall be unobtrusive and shall be located in places designated in advance by the trial judge. While the trial is in progress, the television camera operator shall operate the television camera in this designated location only.

(2) Only one still camera photographer shall be permitted in the courtroom. The still camera photographer shall be positioned in such location in the courtroom as shall be designated by the trial judge. While the trial is in progress, the still camera photographer shall photograph court proceedings from this designated location only.

(3) Only one audio recorder shall be permitted in the courtroom for purposes of recording the proceeding or trial. Microphones, related wiring and equipment essential for the recording shall be unobtrusive and shall be located in places designated in advance by the trial judge.

(l) Only still camera, television and audio equipment which does not produce distracting sound or light shall be employed to cover the proceeding or trial. The operator of such equipment shall not employ any artificial lighting device to supplement the existing light in the courtroom without the approval of the judge presiding over the proceeding or trial and other appropriate authority.

(m) Except as provided by these rules, broadcasting, televising, recording and photographing in areas immediately adjacent to the courtroom during sessions of court or recesses between sessions shall be prohibited.

(n) The conduct of all attorneys with respect to trial publicity shall be governed by Rule 3.6 of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

(o) The judicial authority in its discretion may require pooling arrangements by the media. Pool representatives should ordinarily be used for video, still cameras and radio, with each pool representative to be decided by the relevant media group. Participating members of the broadcasting, televising, recording and photographic media shall make their respective pooling arrangements, including the establishment of necessary procedures and selection of pool representatives, without calling upon the judicial authority to mediate any dispute as to the appropriate media representative or equipment for a particular trial. If any such medium shall not agree on equipment, procedures and personnel, the judicial authority shall not permit that medium to have coverage at the proceeding or trial.

(p) To evaluate and resolve prospective problems where broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing by media of a criminal proceeding or trial will take place, and to ensure compliance with these rules during the proceeding or trial, the judicial authority who will hear the proceeding or preside over the trial may require the attendance of attorneys and media personnel at a pretrial conference.

(q) In a homicide case involving sexual assault, the broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing by the media of the trial may be permitted by the judicial authority, provided that the victim's family affirmatively consents to such coverage, that no member of the victim's family objects to such coverage, and that the victim's family have been notified. As used in this section, "victim's family" shall mean a person's spouse, parent, grandparent, stepparent, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew,

child, including a natural born child, stepchild and adopted child, grandchild, brother, sister, half brother or half sister or parent of a person's spouse.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section and to Section 1-10B permit the judicial authority to allow media coverage of a homicide case involving sexual assault, provided that the victim's family affirmatively consents to such coverage, that no member of the victim's family objects to such coverage, and that the victim's family has been notified. If any member of the victim's family objects to such coverage or if the victim's family cannot be identified or located, the judicial authority should not allow such coverage. As used in this section, "victim's family" has the same meaning as "relative" in General Statutes § 54-201 (4).

Sec. 2-3. Bar Examining Committee

There shall be a[n] bar examining committee appointed by the judges of the Superior Court consisting of twenty-four members, of whom at least one shall be a judge of said court, and the rest attorneys residing in this state. The term of office of each member shall be three years from the first day of September succeeding appointment, and the terms shall continue to be arranged so that those of eight members shall expire annually. The appointment of any member may be revoked or suspended by the judges or by the executive committee of the Superior Court. In connection with such revocation or suspension, the judges or the executive committee shall appoint a qualified individual to fill the vacancy for the balance of the term or for any other appropriate period. All other vacancies shall be filled by the judges for unexpired terms only, provided that the chief justice may fill such vacancies until

the next annual meeting of the judges, and in the event of the foreseen absence or the illness or the disqualification of a member of the committee the chief justice may make a pro tempore appointment to the committee to serve during such absence, illness or disqualification. At any meeting of the committee the members present shall constitute a quorum.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee.

Sec. 2-4. —Regulations by Bar Examining Committee

The bar examining committee shall have the power and authority to implement these rules by regulations relevant thereto and not inconsistent therewith. Such regulations may be adopted at any regular meeting of the committee or at any special meeting called for that purpose. They shall be effective ninety days after publication in one issue of the Connecticut Law Journal and shall at all times be subject to amendment or revision by the committee or by the judges of the Superior Court. A copy shall be provided to the chief justice.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee.

Sec. 2-4A. —Records of Bar Examining Committee

(a) All [The] records of the bar examining committee, including [and] transcripts, if any, of hearings conducted by the [state] bar examining committee or the several standing committees on recommendations for admission to the bar shall not be public [be available only to such committee, to a judge of the Superior Court, to the Statewide Grievance Committee, to disciplinary counsel or, with the consent of the applicant, to any other person, unless otherwise ordered by the court].

(b) Unless otherwise ordered by the court, all records that are not public shall be available only to the bar examining committee and its counsel, disciplinary counsel, the client security fund committee and its counsel, a judge of the Superior Court or, with the consent of the applicant, to any other person.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee and for clarity.

Sec. 2-5. —Examination of Candidates for Admission

The bar examining committee shall further have the duty, power and authority to provide for the examination of candidates for admission to the bar; to determine whether such candidates are qualified as to prelaw education, legal education, good moral character and fitness to practice law; and to recommend to the court for admission to the bar qualified candidates.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee.

Sec. 2-6. —Personnel of Bar Examining Committee

Such personnel within the legal services division of the Office of the Chief Court Administrator as may be assigned from time to time by the chief court administrator shall assist the bar examining committee in carrying out its duties.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee.

Sec. 2-8. Qualifications for Admission

To entitle an applicant to admission to the bar, except under Section[s] 2-13 [through 2-15] of these rules, the applicant must satisfy the bar examining committee that:

(1) The applicant is a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully residing in the United States, which shall include an individual authorized to work lawfully in the United States.

(2) The applicant is not less than eighteen years of age.

(3) The applicant is a person of good moral character, is fit to practice law, and has either passed an examination in professional responsibility [administered under the auspices of the bar examining committee] which has been approved or required by the committee or has completed a course in professional responsibility in accordance with the regulations of the [bar examining] committee. Any inquiries or procedures used by the bar examining committee that relate to physical or mental disability must be narrowly tailored and necessary to a determination of the applicant's current fitness to practice law, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and amendment twenty-one of the Connecticut constitution, and conducted in a manner consistent with privacy rights afforded under the federal and state constitutions or other applicable law.

(4) The applicant has met the educational requirements as may be set, from time to time, by the bar examining committee.

(5) The applicant has filed with the administrative director of the bar examining committee an application to take the examination and for admission to the bar, all in accordance with these rules and the regulations of the committee, and has paid such application fee as the committee shall from time to time determine.

(6) The applicant has passed an examination in law in accordance with the regulations of the bar examining committee.

(7) The applicant has complied with all of the pertinent rules and regulations of the bar examining committee.

(8) As an alternative to satisfying the bar examining committee that the applicant has met the committee's educational requirements, the applicant who meets all the remaining requirements of this section may, upon payment of such investigation fee as the committee shall from time to time determine, substitute proof satisfactory to the committee that: (A) the applicant has been admitted to practice before the highest court of original jurisdiction in one or more states, the District of Columbia or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or in one or more district courts of the United States for ten or more years and at the time of filing the application is a member in good standing of such a bar; (B) the applicant has actually practiced law in such a jurisdiction for not less than five years during the seven year period immediately preceding the filing date of the application; and (C) the applicant intends, upon a continuing basis, actively to practice law in Connecticut and to devote the major portion of the applicant's working time to the practice of law in Connecticut.

COMMENTARY: Reference to Sections 2-14 and 2-15 has been removed as these sections have been repealed. The change in subdivision (3) clarifies that while there is an ethics requirement for bar admission, the Bar Examining Committee does not administer the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE). The remaining changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee.

Sec. 2-9. Certification of Applicants Recommended for Admission; Conditions of Admission

(a) The bar examining committee shall certify to the clerk of the Superior Court for the Judicial District where the applicant has his or

her correspondence address [county in which the applicant seeks admission and to the clerk of the Superior Court in New Haven] the name of any such applicant recommended by it for admission to the bar and shall notify the applicant of its decision.

(b) The bar examining committee may, in light of the [physical or mental disability of a candidate] health diagnosis, treatment, or drug or alcohol dependence of an applicant that has caused conduct or behavior that would otherwise have rendered the [candidate] applicant currently unfit to practice law, determine that it will only recommend an applicant for admission to the bar conditional upon the applicant's compliance with conditions prescribed by the committee relevant to the [disability and the] health diagnosis, treatment, or drug or alcohol dependence or fitness of the applicant. Such determination shall be made after a hearing on the record is conducted by the committee or a panel thereof consisting of at least three members appointed by the chair, unless such hearing is waived by the applicant. Such conditions shall be tailored to detect recurrence of the conduct or behavior which could render an applicant unfit to practice law or pose a risk to clients or the public and to encourage continued treatment, abstinence, or other support. The conditional admission period shall not exceed five years, unless the conditionally admitted attorney fails to comply with the conditions of admission, and the [bar examining] committee or the court determines, in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 2-11, that a further period of conditional admission is necessary. The committee shall notify the applicant by mail of its decision and that the applicant must sign an agreement with the [bar examining] committee under oath affirming acceptance of such conditions and

that the applicant will comply with them. Upon receipt of this agreement from the applicant, duly executed, the committee shall recommend the applicant for admission to the bar as provided herein. The committee shall forward a copy of the agreement to the statewide bar counsel, who shall be considered a party for purposes of defending an appeal under Section 2-11A.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section replace language referencing the disability of an applicant with language that is more neutral and inclusive, for consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee, and to conform the section to current practice.

Sec. 2-10. Admission by Superior Court

(a) Each applicant who shall be recommended for admission to the bar shall present himself or herself to the Superior Court, or to either the Supreme Court or the Appellate Court sitting as the Superior Court, at such place and at such time as shall be prescribed by the bar examining committee, or shall be prescribed by the Supreme Court or the Appellate Court, and such court may then, upon motion, admit such person as an attorney. The administrative director shall give notice to each clerk of the names of the newly admitted attorneys. At the time such applicant is admitted as an attorney, the applicant shall be sworn as a Commissioner of the Superior Court.

(b) The administrative judge of said judicial district or a designee or the chief justice of the Supreme Court or a designee or the chief judge of the Appellate Court or a designee may deliver an address to the applicants so admitted respecting their duties and responsibilities as attorneys.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee.

Sec. 2-11. Monitoring Compliance with Conditions of Admission; Removal or Modification of Conditions

(a) If an applicant is admitted to the bar after signing an agreement with the bar examining committee under oath affirming acceptance of the conditions prescribed by the committee pursuant to Section 2-9 (b) and that he or she will comply with them, the statewide bar counsel shall monitor the attorney's compliance with those conditions pursuant to regulations adopted by the Statewide Grievance Committee governing such monitoring. The attorney so admitted or the statewide bar counsel may make application to the bar examining committee to remove or modify the conditions previously agreed to by such attorney as circumstances warrant. The [bar examining] committee, or a panel thereof consisting of at least three members appointed by its chair, shall conduct a hearing on the application, which shall be on the record, and shall also receive and consider a report from the statewide bar counsel on the matter. Such hearing may be waived by the applicant and the statewide bar counsel. If, upon such application, the [bar examining] committee modifies such conditions, the attorney shall sign an agreement with the bar examining committee under oath affirming acceptance of the modified conditions and that he or she will comply with them, and the statewide bar counsel shall monitor the attorney's compliance with them. The statewide bar counsel shall be considered a party for purposes of defending an appeal under Section 2-11A. All information relating to conditional admission of an applicant or attorney shall remain confidential unless otherwise ordered by the court, except that a copy of the signed agreement and information related to compliance with the conditions may be made available upon request to

disciplinary counsel or, with the consent of the applicant or attorney, to any other agency or person.

(b) Upon the failure of the attorney to comply with the conditions of admission or the monitoring requirements adopted by the Statewide Grievance Committee, the statewide bar counsel shall apply to the court in the judicial district of Hartford for an appropriate order. The court, after hearing upon such application, may take such action as it deems appropriate. Thereafter, upon application of the attorney or of the statewide bar counsel and upon good cause shown, the court may set aside or modify the order rendered pursuant hereto.

COMMENTARY: The change to this section allows Disciplinary Counsel to have access to the fact that a person has been conditionally admitted in order to properly perform his or her duties. Such access is especially relevant when the attorney remains bound by the conditions, and will alert disciplinary counsel that inactive status may be appropriate if the attorney has ongoing disciplinary matters. Information on compliance from the Statewide Bar Counsel is likewise necessary so that Disciplinary Counsel can determine whether the issue that gave rise to the conditions may be having an impact on the attorney's performance.

Additionally, the attorney should be able to consent to the disclosure of the fact that he or she has been conditionally admitted, and has complied with the conditions. This is typically necessary when the person is applying for admission in another jurisdiction and wants the Bar Examining Committee and/or the Statewide Bar Counsel to disclose information relative to the conditional admission to the other jurisdiction. Absent this change, the attorney would need to obtain a court order authorizing the disclosure. That may result in unnecessary delay of the attorney's admission in the other jurisdiction.

The remaining changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee.

Sec. 2-11A. Appeal from Decision of Bar Examining Committee concerning Conditions of Admission

(a) A decision by the bar examining committee prescribing conditions for admission to the bar under Section 2-9 (b) or on an application to remove or modify conditions of admission under Section 2-11 (a) may be appealed to the Superior Court by the bar applicant or attorney who is the subject of the decision. Within thirty days from the issuance of the decision of the [bar examining] committee, the appellant shall: (1) file the appeal with the clerk of the Superior Court for the judicial district of Hartford and (2) mail a copy of the appeal by certified mail, return receipt requested or with electronic delivery confirmation, to the Office of the Statewide Bar Counsel and to the Office of the Director of the Bar Examining Committee as agent for the [bar examining] committee. The statewide bar counsel shall be considered a party for purposes of defending an appeal under this section.

(b) The filing of an appeal shall not, of itself, stay enforcement of the bar examining committee's decision. An application for a stay may be made to the [bar examining] committee, to the court or to both. Filing of an application with the [bar examining] committee shall not preclude action by the court. A stay, if granted, shall be on appropriate terms.

(c) Within thirty days after the service of the appeal, or within such further time as may be allowed by the court, the director of the bar examining committee shall transmit to the reviewing court a certified copy of the entire record of the proceeding appealed from, which shall

include a transcript of any testimony heard by the [bar examining] committee and the decision of the [bar examining] committee. By stipulation of all parties to such appeal proceedings, the record may be shortened. The court may require or permit subsequent corrections or additions to the record.

(d) The appellant shall file a brief within thirty days after the filing of the record by the bar examining committee. The appellee shall file its brief within thirty days of the filing of the appellant's brief. Unless permission is given by the court for good cause shown, briefs shall not exceed thirty-five pages.

(e) The appeal shall be conducted by the court without a jury and shall be confined to the record. If alleged irregularities in procedure before the bar examining committee are not shown in the record, proof limited thereto may be taken in the court. The court, upon request, shall hear oral argument.

(f) Upon appeal, the court shall not substitute its judgment for that of the bar examining committee as to the weight of the evidence on questions of fact. The court shall affirm the decision of the committee unless the court finds that substantial rights of the appellant have been prejudiced because the committee's findings, inferences, conclusions, or decisions are: (1) in violation of constitutional provisions, rules of practice or statutory provisions; (2) in excess of the authority of the committee; (3) made upon unlawful procedure; (4) affected by other error of law; (5) clearly erroneous in view of the reliable, probative, and substantial evidence on the whole record; or (6) arbitrary or capricious or characterized by abuse of discretion or clearly unwarranted exercise of discretion. If the court finds such prejudice, it shall sustain

the appeal and, if appropriate, rescind the action of the [bar examining] committee or take such other action as may be necessary. For purposes of further appeal, the action taken by the Superior Court hereunder is a final judgment.

(g) In all appeals taken under this section, costs may be taxed in favor of the statewide bar counsel in the same manner, and to the same extent, that costs are allowed in judgments rendered by the Superior Court. No costs shall be taxed against the bar examining committee, except that the court may, in its discretion, award to the appellant reasonable fees and expenses if the court determines that the action of the [bar examining] committee was undertaken without any substantial justification. “Reasonable fees and expenses” means any expenses not in excess of \$7500 which the court finds were reasonably incurred in opposing the committee’s action, including court costs, expenses incurred in administrative proceedings, attorney’s fees, witness fees of all necessary witnesses, and such other expenses as were reasonably incurred.

(h) All information relating to the conditional admission of an applicant or attorney who is subject to the decision, including information submitted in connection with the appeal under this section, shall be confidential unless otherwise ordered by the court, except that information submitted in connection with an appeal and the court’s decision on the appeal may be made available upon request to disciplinary counsel or, with the consent of the applicant or attorney who is subject to the decision, to any other person.

COMMENTARY: Inclusion of “applicant or” in subsection (h) recognizes that an appeal under this section can be filed by an applicant

(not yet admitted) or an attorney (the applicant after being admitted). The remaining changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee.

Sec. 2-12. County Committees on Recommendations for Admission

[(a)] There shall be in each county a standing committee on recommendations for admission, consisting of not less than three nor more than seven members of the bar of that county, who shall be appointed by the judges of the Superior Court to hold office for three years from the date of their appointment and until their successors are appointed. The appointment of any member may be revoked or suspended by the judges or by the executive committee of the Superior Court. In connection with such revocation or suspension, the judges or the executive committee shall appoint a qualified individual to fill the vacancy for the balance of the term or for any other appropriate period. Appointments to fill vacancies which have arisen by reasons other than revocation or suspension may be made by the chief justice until the next annual meeting of the judges of the Superior Court, and, in the event of the foreseen absence or the illness or the disqualification of a member of the committee, the chief justice may make a pro tempore appointment to the committee to serve during such absence, illness or disqualification.

[(b)] Any application for admission to the bar may be referred to the committee for the county through which the applicant seeks admission, which shall investigate the applicant's moral character and fitness to practice law and report to the bar of the county whether the applicant has complied with the rules relating to admission to the bar, is a person of good moral character, is fit to practice law and should be admitted.]

COMMENTARY: The deletion of subsection (b) of this section conforms the rule to current practice.

Sec. 2-13. Attorneys of Other Jurisdictions; Qualifications and Requirements for Admission

(a) Any member of the bar of another state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia, who, after satisfying the [state] bar examining committee that his or her educational qualifications are such as would entitle him or her to take the examination in Connecticut, and that (i) at least one jurisdiction in which he or she is a member of the bar is reciprocal to Connecticut in that it would admit a member of the bar of Connecticut to its bar without examination under provisions similar to those set out in this section or (ii) he or she is a full-time faculty member or full-time clinical fellow at an accredited Connecticut law school and admitted in a reciprocal or nonreciprocal jurisdiction, shall satisfy the [state bar examining] committee that he or she:

(1) is of good moral character, is fit to practice law, and has either passed an examination in professional responsibility [administered under the auspices of the bar examining committee] or has completed a course in professional responsibility in accordance with the regulations of the [bar examining] committee;

(2) has been duly licensed to practice law before the highest court of a reciprocal state or territory of the United States or in the District of Columbia if reciprocal to Connecticut, or that he or she is a full-time faculty member or full-time clinical fellow at an accredited Connecticut law school and admitted in a reciprocal or nonreciprocal jurisdiction and (A) has lawfully engaged in the practice of law as the applicant's principal means of livelihood for at least five of the ten

years immediately preceding the date of the application and is in good standing, or (B) if the applicant has taken the bar examinations of Connecticut and failed to pass them, the applicant has lawfully engaged in the practice of law as his or her principal means of livelihood for at least five of the ten years immediately preceding the date of the application and is in good standing, provided that such five years of practice shall have occurred subsequent to the applicant's last failed Connecticut examination; and

(3) is a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully residing in the United States, which shall include an individual authorized to work lawfully in the United States[; and

(4) intends, upon a continuing basis, to practice law actively in Connecticut], may be admitted by the court as an attorney without examination upon written application and the payment of such fee as the [examining] committee shall from time to time determine, upon compliance with the following requirements. Such application, duly verified, shall be filed with the administrative director of the [bar examining] committee and shall set forth the applicant's qualifications as hereinbefore provided. [There shall be filed with such application the following affidavits:] The following affidavits shall be filed by the person completing the affidavit:

(A) affidavits from two attorneys who personally know the applicant certifying to his or her good moral character and fitness to practice law and supporting, to the satisfaction of the [state bar examining] committee, his or her practice of law as defined under subdivision (2) of this subsection;

(B) affidavits from two members of the bar of Connecticut of at least five years' standing, certifying that the applicant is of good moral character and is fit to practice law; and

(C) an affidavit from the applicant, certifying whether such applicant has a grievance pending against him or her, has ever been reprimanded, suspended, placed on inactive status, disbarred, or has ever resigned from the practice of law, and, if so, setting forth the circumstances concerning such action. Such an affidavit is not required if it has been furnished as part of the application form prescribed by the [state bar examining] committee.

(b) For the purpose of this rule, the “practice of law” shall include the following activities, if performed after the date of the applicant’s admission to the jurisdiction in which the activities were performed, or if performed in a jurisdiction that permits such activity by a lawyer not admitted to practice:

- (1) representation of one or more clients in the practice of law;
- (2) service as a lawyer with a state, federal, or territorial agency, including military services;
- (3) teaching law at an accredited law school, including supervision of law students within a clinical program;
- (4) service as a judge in a state, federal, or territorial court of record;
- (5) service as a judicial law clerk;
- (6) service as authorized house counsel;
- (7) service as authorized house counsel in Connecticut before July 1, 2008, or while certified pursuant to Section 2-15A; or
- (8) any combination of the above.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee; to clarify that while there exists an ethics requirement for admission, the Bar Examining Committee does not administer the Multistate Profes-

sional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) or any other ethics examination; to remove the requirement that the applicant intends to practice law in Connecticut on a continuing basis, so as not to be an impediment to attorneys who wish to apply for admission in certain jurisdictions; and to reflect the policy of the Bar Examining Committee that the affidavits required to be filed, must be received directly from the affiant, not the applicant.

Sec. 2-13A. Military Spouse Temporary Licensing

(a) **Qualifications.** An applicant who meets all of the following requirements listed in subdivisions (1) through (11) of this subsection may be temporarily licensed and admitted to the practice of law in Connecticut, upon approval of the bar examining committee. The applicant:

(1) is the spouse of an active duty service member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard and that service member is or will be stationed in Connecticut due to military orders;

(2) is licensed to practice law before the highest court in at least one state or territory of the United States or in the District of Columbia;

(3) is currently an active member in good standing in every jurisdiction to which the applicant has been admitted to practice, or has resigned or become inactive or had a license administratively suspended or revoked while in good standing from every jurisdiction without any pending disciplinary actions;

(4) is not currently subject to lawyer discipline or the subject of a pending disciplinary matter in any other jurisdiction;

(5) meets the educational qualifications required to take the examination in Connecticut;

(6) possesses the good moral character and fitness to practice law required of all applicants for admission in Connecticut;

(7) has passed an examination in professional responsibility administered under the auspices of the bar examining committee or has completed a course in professional responsibility in accordance with the regulation of the bar examining committee;

(8) is or will be physically residing in Connecticut due to the service member's military orders;

(9) has not failed the Connecticut bar examination within the past five years;

(10) has not had an application for admission to the Connecticut bar or the bar of any state, the District of Columbia or United States territory denied on character and fitness grounds; and

(11) has not failed to achieve the Connecticut scaled score on the uniform bar examination administered within any jurisdiction within the past five years.

(b) **Application Requirements.** Any applicant seeking a temporary license to practice law in Connecticut under this section shall file a written application and payment of such fee as the bar examining committee shall from time to time determine. Such application, duly verified, shall be filed with the administrative director of the [bar examining] committee and shall set forth the applicant's qualifications as hereinbefore provided. In addition, the applicant shall file with the [bar examining] committee the following:

(1) a copy of the applicant's military spouse dependent identification and documentation evidencing a spousal relationship with the service member;

(2) a copy of the service member's military orders to a military installation in Connecticut or a letter from the service member's command verifying that the requirement in subsection (a) (8) of this section is met;

(3) certificate(s) of good standing from the highest court of each state, the District of Columbia or United States territory to which the applicant has been admitted, or proof that the applicant has resigned, or become inactive or had a license administratively suspended or revoked while in good standing;

(4) an affidavit from the applicant, certifying whether such applicant has a grievance pending against him or her, has ever been reprimanded, suspended, placed on inactive status, disbarred, or has ever resigned from the practice of law, and, if so setting forth the circumstances concerning such action; and

(5) affidavits from two attorneys who personally know the applicant certifying to his or her good moral character and fitness to practice law.

(c) Duration and Renewal.

(1) A temporary license to practice law issued under this rule will be valid for three years provided that the temporarily licensed attorney remains a spouse of the service member and resides in Connecticut due to military orders or continues to reside in Connecticut due to the service member's immediately subsequent assignment specifying that dependents are not authorized to accompany the service member. The temporary license may be renewed for one additional two year period.

(2) A renewal application must be submitted with the appropriate fee as established by the bar examining committee and all other documentation required by the bar examining committee, including a copy

of the service member's military orders. Such renewal application shall be filed not less than thirty days before the expiration of the original three year period.

(3) A temporarily licensed attorney who wishes to become a permanent member of the bar of Connecticut may apply for admission by examination or for admission without examination for the standard application fee minus the application fee paid to the committee for the application for temporary license, not including any fees for renewal.

(d) **Termination.**

(1) Termination of Temporary License. A temporary license shall terminate, and a temporarily licensed attorney shall cease the practice of law in Connecticut pursuant to that admission, unless otherwise authorized by these rules, thirty days after any of the following events:

(A) the service member's separation or retirement from military service;

(B) the service member's permanent relocation to another jurisdiction, unless the service member's immediately subsequent assignment specifies that the dependents are not authorized to accompany the service member, in which case the attorney may continue to practice law in Connecticut as provided in this rule until the service member departs Connecticut for a permanent change of station where the presence of dependents is authorized;

(C) the attorney's permanent relocation outside of the state of Connecticut for reasons other than the service member's relocation;

(D) upon the termination of the attorney's spousal relationship to the service member;

(E) the attorney's failure to meet the annual licensing requirements for an active member of the bar of Connecticut;

(F) the attorney's request;

(G) the attorney's admission to practice law in Connecticut by examination or without examination;

(H) the attorney's denial of admission to the practice of law in Connecticut; or

(I) the death of the service member.

Notice of one of the events set forth in subsection (d) (1) must be filed with the bar examining committee by the temporarily licensed attorney within thirty days of such event. Notice of the event set forth in subsection (d) (1) (I) must be filed with the [bar examining] committee by the temporarily licensed attorney within thirty days of the event, and the attorney shall cease the practice of law within one year of the event. Failure to provide such notice by the temporarily licensed attorney shall be a basis for discipline pursuant to the Rules of Professional Conduct for attorneys.

(2) Notice of Termination of Temporary License. Upon receipt of the notice required by subsection (d) (1), the bar examining committee shall forward a request to the statewide bar counsel that the license under this chapter be revoked. Notice of the revocation shall be mailed by the statewide bar counsel to the temporarily licensed attorney.

(3) Notices Required. At least sixty days before termination of the temporary admission, or as soon as possible under the circumstances, the attorney shall:

(A) file in each matter pending before any court, tribunal, agency or commission a notice that the attorney will no longer be involved in the case; and

(B) provide written notice to all clients receiving representation from the attorney that the attorney will no longer represent them.

(e) **Responsibilities and Obligations.**

An attorney temporarily licensed under this section shall be subject to all responsibilities and obligations of active members of the Connecticut bar, and shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts and agencies of Connecticut, and shall be subject to the laws and rules of Connecticut governing the conduct and discipline of attorneys to the same extent as an active member of the Connecticut bar. The attorney shall maintain participation in a mentoring program provided by a state or local bar association in the state of Connecticut.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee.

Sec. 2-15A. —Authorized House Counsel

(a) **Purpose**

The purpose of this section is to clarify the status of house counsel as authorized house counsel as defined herein, and to confirm that such counsel are subject to regulation by the judges of the Superior Court. Notwithstanding any other section of this chapter relating to admission to the bar, this section shall authorize attorneys licensed to practice in jurisdictions other than Connecticut to be permitted to undertake these activities, as defined herein, in Connecticut without the requirement of taking the bar examination so long as they are exclusively employed by an organization.

(b) **Definitions**

(1) **Authorized House Counsel.** An “authorized house counsel” is any person who:

(A) is a member in good standing of the entity governing the practice of law of each state (other than Connecticut) or territory of the United

States, or the District of Columbia or any foreign jurisdiction in which the member is licensed;

(B) has been certified on recommendation of the bar examining committee in accordance with this section;

(C) agrees to abide by the rules regulating members of the Connecticut bar and submit to the jurisdiction of the Statewide Grievance Committee and the Superior Court; and

(D) is, at the date of application for registration under this rule, employed in the state of Connecticut by an organization or relocating to the state of Connecticut in furtherance of such employment within three months prior to starting work in the state of Connecticut or three months after the applicant begins work in the state of Connecticut of such application under this section and receives or shall receive compensation for activities performed for that business organization.

(2) **Organization.** An “organization” for the purpose of this rule is a corporation, partnership, association, or employer sponsored benefit plan or other legal entity (taken together with its respective parents, subsidiaries, and affiliates) that is not itself engaged in the practice of law or the rendering of legal services outside such organization, whether for a fee or otherwise, and does not charge or collect a fee for the representation or advice other than to entities comprising such organization for the activities of the authorized house counsel.

(c) **Activities**

(1) **Authorized Activities.** An authorized house counsel, as an employee of an organization, may provide legal services in the state of Connecticut to the organization for which a registration pursuant to subsection (d) is effective, provided, however, that such activities shall be limited to:

(A) the giving of legal advice to the directors, officers, employees, trustees, and agents of the organization with respect to its business and affairs;

(B) negotiating and documenting all matters for the organization; and

(C) representation of the organization in its dealings with any administrative agency, tribunal or commission having jurisdiction; provided, however, authorized house counsel shall not be permitted to make appearances as counsel before any state or municipal administrative tribunal, agency, or commission, and shall not be permitted to make appearances in any court of this state, unless the attorney is specially admitted to appear in a case before such tribunal, agency, commission or court.

(2) **Disclosure.** Authorized house counsel shall not represent themselves to be members of the Connecticut bar or commissioners of the Superior Court licensed to practice law in this state. Such counsel may represent themselves as Connecticut authorized house counsel.

(3) **Limitation on Representation.** In no event shall the activities permitted hereunder include the individual or personal representation of any shareholder, owner, partner, officer, employee, servant, or agent in any matter or transaction or the giving of advice therefor unless otherwise permitted or authorized by law, code, or rule or as may be permitted by subsection (c) (1). Authorized house counsel shall not be permitted to prepare legal instruments or documents on behalf of anyone other than the organization employing the authorized house counsel.

(4) **Limitation on Opinions to Third Parties.** An authorized house counsel shall not express or render a legal judgment or opinion to be

relied upon by any third person or party other than legal opinions rendered in connection with commercial, financial or other business transactions to which the authorized house counsel's employer organization is a party and in which the legal opinions have been requested from the authorized house counsel by another party to the transaction. Nothing in this subsection (c) (4) shall permit authorized house counsel to render legal opinions or advice in consumer transactions to customers of the organization employing the authorized house counsel.

(5) **Pro Bono Legal Services.** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this section, an authorized house counsel may participate in the provision of any and all legal services pro bono public in Connecticut offered under the supervision of an organized legal aid society or state/local bar association project, or of a member of the Connecticut bar who is also working on the pro bono representation.

(d) **Registration**

(1) **Filing with the Bar Examining Committee.** The bar examining committee shall investigate whether the applicant is at least eighteen years of age and is of good moral character, consistent with the requirement of Section 2-8 (3) regarding applicants for admission to the bar. In addition, the applicant shall file with the [bar examining] committee, and the committee shall consider, the following:

(A) a certificate from each entity governing the practice of law of a state or territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia or any foreign jurisdiction in which the applicant is licensed to practice law certifying that the applicant is a member in good standing;

(B) a sworn statement by the applicant:

(i) that the applicant has read and is familiar with the Connecticut Rules of Professional Conduct for attorneys and Chapter 2 (Attorneys)

of the Superior Court Rules, General Provisions, and will abide by the provisions thereof;

(ii) that the applicant submits to the jurisdiction of the Statewide Grievance Committee and the Superior Court for disciplinary purposes, and authorizes notification to or from the entity governing the practice of law of each state or territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia in which the applicant is licensed to practice law of any disciplinary action taken against the applicant;

(iii) listing any jurisdiction in which the applicant is now or ever has been licensed to practice law; and

(iv) disclosing any disciplinary sanction or pending proceeding pertaining or relating to his or her license to practice law including, but not limited to, reprimand, censure, suspension or disbarment, or whether the applicant has been placed on inactive status;

(C) a certificate from an organization certifying that it is qualified as set forth in subsection (b) (2); that it is aware that the applicant is not licensed to practice law in Connecticut; and that the applicant is employed or about to be employed in Connecticut by the organization as set forth in subsection (b) (1) (D);

(D) an appropriate application pursuant to the regulations of the bar examining committee;

(E) remittance of a filing fee to the bar examining committee as prescribed and set by that committee; and

(F) an affidavit from each of two members of the Connecticut bar, who have each been licensed to practice law in Connecticut for at least five years, certifying that the applicant is of good moral character and that the applicant is employed or will be employed by an organization as defined above in subsection (b) (2).

(2) **Certification.** Upon recommendation of the bar examining committee, the court may certify the applicant as authorized house counsel and shall cause notice of such certification to be published in the Connecticut Law Journal.

(3) **Annual Client Security Fund Fee.** Individuals certified pursuant to this section shall comply with the requirements of Sections 2-68 and 2-70 of this chapter, including payment of the annual fee and shall pay any other fees imposed on attorneys by court rule.

(4) **Annual Registration.** Individuals certified pursuant to this section shall register annually with the Statewide Grievance Committee in accordance with Sections 2-26 and 2-27 (d) of this chapter.

(e) **Termination or Withdrawal of Registration**

(1) **Cessation of Authorization To Perform Services.** Authorization to perform services under this rule shall cease upon the earliest of the following events:

(A) the termination or resignation of employment with the organization for which registration has been filed, provided, however, that if the authorized house counsel shall commence employment with another organization within thirty days of the termination or resignation, authorization to perform services under this rule shall continue upon the filing with the bar examining committee of a certificate as set forth in subsection (d) (1) (C);

(B) the withdrawal of registration by the authorized house counsel;

(C) the relocation of an authorized house counsel outside of Connecticut for a period greater than 180 consecutive days; or

(D) the failure of authorized house counsel to comply with any applicable provision of this rule.

Notice of one of the events set forth in subsections (e) (1) (A) through (C) or a new certificate as provided in subsection (e) (1) (A) must be filed with the bar examining committee by the authorized house counsel within thirty days after such action. Failure to provide such notice by the authorized house counsel shall be a basis for discipline pursuant to the Rules of Professional Conduct for attorneys.

(2) **Notice of Withdrawal of Authorization.** Upon receipt of the notice required by subsection (e) (1), the bar examining committee shall forward a request to the statewide bar counsel that the authorization under this chapter be revoked. Notice of the revocation shall be mailed by the statewide bar counsel to the authorized house counsel and the organization employing the authorized house counsel.

(3) **Reapplication.** Nothing herein shall prevent an individual previously authorized as house counsel to reapply for authorization as set forth in subsection (d).

(f) **Discipline**

(1) **Termination of Authorization by Court.** In addition to any appropriate proceedings and discipline that may be imposed by the Statewide Grievance Committee, the Superior Court may, at any time, with cause, terminate an authorized house counsel's registration, temporarily or permanently.

(2) **Notification to Other States.** The statewide bar counsel shall be authorized to notify each entity governing the practice of law in the state or territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia, in which the authorized house counsel is licensed to practice law, of any disciplinary action against the authorized house counsel.

(g) **Transition**

(1) **Preapplication Employment in Connecticut.** The performance of an applicant's duties as an employee of an organization in Connecti-

cut prior to the effective date of this rule shall not be grounds for the denial of registration of such applicant if application for registration is made within six months of the effective date of this rule.

(2) **Immunity from Enforcement Action.** An authorized house counsel who has been duly registered under this rule shall not be subject to enforcement action for the unlicensed practice of law for acting as counsel to an organization prior to the effective date of this rule.

COMMENTARY: The changes in subsection (b) of this section clarify that authorized house counsel applications are accepted within three months before or three months after someone begins work in Connecticut. The other changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee.

Sec. 2-18. —Filings To Become Foreign Legal Consultant

(a) An applicant for a license to practice as a foreign legal consultant shall file with the administrative director of the bar examining committee:

- (1) a typewritten application in the form prescribed by the committee;
- (2) a certified check, cashier's check, or money order in the amount of \$500 made payable to the bar examining committee;
- (3) a certificate from the authority in the foreign country having final jurisdiction over professional discipline, certifying to the applicant's admission to practice (or the equivalent of such admission) and the date thereof and to the applicant's good standing as an attorney or counselor at law (or the equivalent of either), together with a duly authenticated English translation of such certificate if it is not in English; and

(4) two letters of recommendation, one from a member in good standing of the Connecticut bar and another from either a member in good standing of the bar of the country in which the applicant is licensed as an attorney, or from a judge of one of the courts of original jurisdiction of said country, together with a duly authenticated English translation of each letter if it is not in English.

(b) Upon a showing that strict compliance with the provisions of Section 2-17 (1) and subdivisions (3) or (4) of subsection (a) of this section is impossible or very difficult for reasons beyond the control of the applicant, or upon a showing of exceptional professional qualifications to practice as a foreign legal consultant, the court may, in its discretion, waive or vary the application of such provisions and permit the applicant to make such other showing as may be satisfactory to the court.

(c) The bar examining committee shall investigate the qualifications, moral character, and fitness of any applicant for a license to practice as a foreign legal consultant and may in any case require the applicant to submit any additional proof or information as the committee may deem appropriate. The committee may also require the applicant to submit a report from the National Conference of Bar Examiners, and to pay the prescribed fee therefor, with respect to the applicant's character and fitness.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section are made for purposes of consistency when referring to the Bar Examining Committee.

Sec. 2-27A. Minimum Continuing Legal Education

(a) On an annual basis, each attorney admitted in Connecticut shall certify, on the registration form required by Section 2-27 (d), that the

attorney has completed in the last calendar year no less than twelve credit hours of appropriate continuing legal education, at least two hours of which shall be in ethics/professionalism. The ethics and professionalism components may be integrated with other courses. This rule shall apply to all attorneys except the following:

(1) Judges and senior judges of the Supreme, Appellate or Superior Courts, judge trial referees, family support magistrates, family support magistrate referees, workers' compensation commissioners, elected constitutional officers, federal judges, federal magistrate judges, federal administrative law judges or federal bankruptcy judges;

(2) Attorneys who are disbarred, resigned pursuant to Section 2-52, on inactive status pursuant to Section 2-56 et seq., or retired pursuant to Sections 2-55 or 2-55A;

(3) Attorneys who are serving on active duty in the armed forces of the United States for more than six months in such year;

(4) Attorneys for the calendar year in which they are admitted;

(5) Attorneys who earn less than \$1000 in compensation for the provision of legal services in such year;

(6) Attorneys who, for good cause shown, have been granted temporary or permanent exempt status by the Statewide Grievance Committee.

(b) Attorneys may satisfy the required hours of continuing legal education:

(1) By attending legal education courses provided by any local, state or special interest bar association in this state or regional or national bar associations recognized in this state or another state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia (hereinafter referred

to as “bar association”); any private or government legal employer; any court of this or any other state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia; any organization whose program or course has been reviewed and approved by any bar association or organization that has been established in any state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia to certify and approve continuing legal education courses; and any other nonprofit or for-profit legal education providers, including law schools and other appropriate continuing legal education providers, and including courses remotely presented by video conference, webcasts, webinars, or the like by said providers.

(2) By self-study of appropriate programs or courses directly related to substantive or procedural law or related topics, including professional responsibility, legal ethics, or law office management and prepared by those continuing legal education providers in subsection (b) (1). Said self-study may include viewing and listening to all manner of communication, including, but not limited to, video or audio recordings or taking online legal courses. The selection of self-study courses or programs shall be consistent with the objective of this rule, which is to maintain and enhance the skill level, knowledge, ethics and competence of the attorney and shall comply with the minimum quality standards set forth in subsection (c) (6).

(3) By publishing articles in legal publications that have as their primary goal the enhancement of competence in the legal profession, including, without limitation, substantive and procedural law, ethics, law practice management and professionalism.

(4) By teaching legal seminars and courses, including the participation on panel discussions as a speaker or moderator.

(5) By serving as a full-time faculty member at a law school accredited by the American Bar Association or approved by the state bar examining committee, in which case, such attorney will be credited with meeting the minimum continuing legal education requirements set forth herein.

(6) By serving as a part-time or adjunct faculty member at a law school accredited by the American Bar Association or approved by the state bar examining committee, in which case, such attorney will be credited with meeting the minimum continuing legal education requirements set forth herein at the rate of one hour for each hour of classroom instruction and one hour for each two hours of preparation.

(7) By serving as a judge or coach for a moot court or mock trial course or competition that is part of the curriculum at or sanctioned by a law school accredited by the American Bar Association or approved by the state bar examining committee.

(c) Credit computation:

(1) Credit for any of the above activities shall be based on the actual instruction time, which may include lecture, panel discussion, and question and answer periods. Credit for the activity listed in subsection (b) (7) shall be based upon the actual judging or coaching time, up to four hours for each activity per year. Self-study credit shall be based on the reading time or running time of the selected materials or program.

(2) Credit for attorneys preparing for and presenting legal seminars, courses or programs shall be based on one hour of credit for each two hours of preparation. A maximum of six hours of credit may be credited for preparation of a single program. Credit for presentation

shall be on an hour for hour basis. Credit may not be earned more than once for the same course given during a calendar year.

(3) Credit for the writing and publication of articles shall be based on the actual [drafting] time required for both researching and drafting. Each article may be counted only one time for credit.

(4) Continuing legal education courses ordered pursuant to Section 2-37 (a) (5) or any court order of discipline shall not count as credit toward an attorney's obligation under this section.

(5) Attorneys may carry forward no more than two credit hours in excess of the current annual continuing legal education requirement to be applied to the following year's continuing legal education requirement.

(6) To be eligible for continuing legal education credit, the course or activity must: (A) have significant intellectual or practical content designed to increase or maintain the attorney's professional competence and skills as a lawyer; (B) constitute an organized program of learning dealing with matters directly related to legal subjects and the legal profession; and (C) be conducted by an individual or group qualified by practical or academic experience.

(d) Attorneys shall retain records to prove compliance with this rule for a period of seven years.

(e) Violation of this section shall constitute misconduct.

(f) Unless it is determined that the violation of this section was wilful, a noncompliant attorney must be given at least sixty days to comply with this section before he or she is subject to any discipline.

(g) A Minimum Continuing Legal Education Commission ("commission") shall be established by the Judicial Branch and shall be com-

posed of four Superior Court judges and four attorneys admitted to practice in this state, all of whom shall be appointed by the chief justice of the Supreme Court or his or her designee and who shall serve without compensation. The charge of the commission will be to provide advice regarding the application and interpretation of this rule and to assist with its implementation including, but not limited to, the development of a list of frequently asked questions and other documents to assist the members of the bar to meet the requirements of this rule.

COMMENTARY—2017: It is the intention of this rule to provide attorneys with relevant and useful continuing legal education covering the broadest spectrum of substantive, procedural, ethical and professional subject matter at the lowest cost reasonably feasible and with the least amount of supervision, structure and reporting requirements, which will aid in the development, enhancement and maintenance of the legal knowledge and skills of practicing attorneys and will facilitate the delivery of competent legal services to the public.

The rule also permits an attorney to design his or her own course of study. The law is constantly evolving and attorneys, like all other professionals, are expected to keep abreast of changes in the profession and the law if they are to provide competent representation.

Subsection (a) provides that Connecticut attorneys must complete twelve credit hours of continuing legal education per calendar year. Subsection (a) also lists those Connecticut attorneys, who are exempt from compliance, including, among others: judges, senior judges, attorneys serving in the military, new attorneys during the year in which they are admitted to practice, attorneys who earn less than \$1000 in compensation for the provision of legal services in the subject year,

and those who obtain an exempt status for good cause shown. The subsection also provides an exemption for attorneys who are disbarred, resigned, on inactive status due to disability, or are retired. The exemption for attorneys who earn less than \$1000 in compensation in a particular year is not intended to apply to attorneys who claim that they were not paid as a result of billed fees to a client. All compensation received for the provision of legal services, whether the result of billed fees or otherwise, must be counted. There is no exemption for attorneys who are suspended or on administrative suspension. Subsection (d) requires an attorney to maintain adequate records of compliance. For continuing legal education courses, a certificate of attendance shall be sufficient proof of compliance. For self-study, a contemporaneous log identifying and describing the course listened to or watched and listing the date and time the course was taken, as well as a copy of the syllabus or outline of the course materials, if available, and, when appropriate, a certificate from the course provider, shall be sufficient proof of compliance. For any other form of continuing legal education, a file including a log of the time spent and drafts of the prepared material shall provide sufficient proof of compliance.

COMMENTARY—2020: The change to the rule regarding credit for the writing and publication of articles clarifies that such credit shall be based on the actual time required for both researching and drafting such articles.

Sec. 2-29. Grievance Panels

(a) The judges of the Superior Court shall appoint one or more grievance panels in each judicial district, each consisting of two members of the bar who do not maintain an office for the practice of law

in such judicial district and one nonattorney who resides in such judicial district, and shall designate as an alternate member a member of the bar who does not maintain an office for the practice of law in such judicial district. Terms shall commence on July 1. Appointments shall be for terms of three years. No person may serve as a member and/or as an alternate member for more than two consecutive three year terms, but may be reappointed after a lapse of one year. The appointment of any member or alternate member may be revoked or suspended by the judges or by the executive committee of the Superior Court. In connection with such revocation or suspension, the judges or the executive committee shall appoint a qualified individual to fill the vacancy for the balance of the term or for any other appropriate period. In the event that a vacancy arises on a panel before the end of a term by reasons other than revocation or suspension, the executive committee of the Superior Court shall appoint an attorney or nonattorney, depending on the position vacated, who meets the appropriate condition set forth above to fill the vacancy for the balance of the term.

(b) Consideration for appointment to these positions shall be given to those candidates recommended to the appointing authority by the administrative judges.

(c) In the event that more than one panel has been appointed to serve a particular judicial district, the executive committee of the Superior Court shall establish the jurisdiction of each such panel.

(d) An attorney who maintains an office for the practice of law in the same judicial district as a respondent may not participate as a member of a grievance panel concerning a complaint against that respondent.

(e) In addition to any other powers and duties set forth in this chapter, each panel shall:

(1) On its own motion or on complaint of any person, inquire into and investigate offenses whether or not occurring in the actual presence of the court involving the character, integrity, professional standing and conduct of members of the bar in this state.

(2) Compel any person by subpoena to appear before it to testify in relation to any matter deemed by the panel to be relevant to any inquiry or investigation it is conducting and to produce before it for examination any books or papers which, in its judgment, may be relevant to such inquiry or investigation.

(3) Utilize an official court reporter or court recording monitor employed by the Judicial Branch to record any testimony taken before it.

(f) The grievance panel may, upon the vote of a majority of its members, require that a disciplinary counsel pursue the matter before the grievance panel on the issue of probable cause.

COMMENTARY: The amendments to this section conform the terminology for official court reporters and court recording monitors to the provisions of No. 19-64 of the 2019 Public Acts.

Sec. 3-8. Appearance for Represented Party

(a) Whenever an attorney files an appearance for a party, or the party files an appearance for himself or herself, and there is already an appearance of an attorney or party on file for that party, the attorney or party filing the new appearance shall state thereon whether such appearance is in place of or in addition to the appearance or appearances already on file.

(b) An attorney is permitted to file an appearance limited to a specific event or proceeding in any family or civil case. If an event or proceeding in a matter in which a limited appearance has been filed has been continued to a later date, for any reason, it is not deemed completed unless otherwise ordered by the court. Except with leave of court, a limited appearance may not be filed to address a specific issue or to represent the client at or for a portion of a hearing. A limited appearance may not be limited to a particular length of time or the exhaustion of a fee. Whenever an attorney files a limited appearance for a party, the limited appearance shall be filed in addition to any self-represented appearance that the party may have already filed with the court. Upon the filing of the limited appearance, the client may not file or serve pleadings, discovery requests or otherwise represent himself or herself in connection with the proceeding or event that is the subject of the limited appearance. An attorney shall not file a limited appearance for a party when filing a new action or during the pendency of an action if there is no appearance on file for that party, unless the party for whom the limited appearance is being filed files an appearance in addition to the attorney's limited appearance at the same time. A limited appearance may not be filed on behalf of a firm or corporation. A limited appearance may not be filed in criminal or juvenile cases, except that a limited appearance may be filed pursuant to Section 79a-3 (c) (1).

(c) The provisions of this section regarding parties filing appearances for themselves do not apply to criminal cases.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section and to Section 35a-21 are in response to the Supreme Court opinion in *In re Taijha H.-*

B., 333 Conn. 297, 216 A.3d 601 (2019), and are intended to be consistent with revisions to the Rules of Appellate Procedure. It is critical that the Superior Court rules and the Rules of Appellate Procedure are adopted on or about the same time so that there is no conflict between them.

Sec. 5-3. Administering Oath

The oath or affirmation shall be administered deliberately and with due solemnity, as the witness takes the stand. The official court reporter or court recording monitor shall note by whom it was administered.

COMMENTARY: The amendments to this section conform the terminology for official court reporters and court recording monitors to the provisions of No. 19-64 of the 2019 Public Acts.

Sec. 6-1. Statement of Decision; When Required

(a) The judicial authority shall state its decision either orally or in writing, in all of the following: (1) in rendering judgments in trials to the court in civil and criminal matters, including rulings regarding motions for stay of execution, (2) in ruling on aggravating and mitigating factors in capital penalty hearings conducted to the court, (3) in ruling on motions to dismiss under Sections 41-8 through 41-11, (4) in ruling on motions to suppress under Sections 41-12 through 41-17, (5) in granting a motion to set aside a verdict under Sections 16-35 through 16-38, and (6) in making any other rulings that constitute a final judgment for purposes of appeal under General Statutes § 52-263, including those that do not terminate the proceedings. The judicial authority's decision shall encompass its conclusion as to each claim of law raised

by the parties and the factual basis therefor. If oral, the decision shall be recorded by an official court reporter or court recording monitor and, if there is an appeal, the trial judge shall create a memorandum of decision for use in the appeal by ordering a transcript of the portion of the proceedings in which it stated its oral decision. The transcript of the decision shall be signed by the trial judge and filed in the trial court clerk's office.

This section does not apply in small claims actions and to matters listed in subsection (b).

(b) In any uncontested matter where no aspect of the matter is in dispute, in a *pendente lite* family relations matter whether contested or uncontested, or in any dismissal under Section 14-3, the oral or written decision as provided in subsection (a) is not required, except as provided in subsection (c). The clerk of the trial court shall, however, promptly notify the trial judge of the filing of the appeal.

(c) Within twenty days from the filing of an appeal from a contested *pendente lite* order or from a dismissal under Section 14-3 in which an oral or written decision has not been made pursuant to subsection (b), each party to the appeal shall file a brief with the trial court discussing the legal and factual issues in the matter. Within twenty days after the briefs have been filed by the parties, the judicial authority shall file a written memorandum of decision stating the factual basis for its decision on the issues in the matter and its conclusion as to each claim of law raised by the parties.

COMMENTARY: The amendments to this section conform the terminology for official court reporters and court recording monitors to the provisions of No. 19-64 of the 2019 Public Acts.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CIVIL RULES

Sec. 16-12. View by Jury of Place or Thing Involved in Case

When the judicial authority is of the opinion that a viewing by the jury of the place or thing involved in the case will be helpful to the jury in determining any material factual issue, it may in its discretion, at any time before the closing arguments, order that the jury be conducted to such place or location of such thing. During the viewing, the jury must be kept together under the supervision of a proper officer appointed by the judicial authority. The judicial authority and an official court reporter or court recording monitor must be present, and, with the judicial authority's permission, any other person may be present. Counsel and self-represented parties may as a matter of right be present, but the right may be waived. The purpose of viewing shall be solely to permit visual observation by the jury of the place or thing in question and to permit a brief description of the site or thing being viewed by the judicial authority or by any witness or witnesses as allowed by the judicial authority. Any proceedings at the location, including examination of witnesses, shall be at the discretion of the judicial authority. Neither the parties nor counsel nor the jurors while viewing the place or thing may engage in discussion of the significance or the implications of anything under observation or of any issue in the case.

COMMENTARY: The amendments to this section conform the terminology for official court reporters and court recording monitors to the provisions of No. 19-64 of the 2019 Public Acts.

Sec. 23-55. —Hearing in Fact-Finding

In matters submitted to fact-finding, a record shall be made of the proceedings and the [civil rules of evidence] Connecticut Code of Evidence shall apply.

COMMENTARY: The change to this section substitutes “Connecticut Code of Evidence” for “civil rules of evidence” as the appropriate reference to evidentiary rules.

Sec. 23-63. —Hearing in Arbitration

In matters submitted to arbitration, no record shall be made of the proceedings and the strict adherence to the [civil rules of evidence] Connecticut Code of Evidence shall not be required.

COMMENTARY: The change to this section substitutes “Connecticut Code of Evidence” for “civil rules of evidence” as the appropriate reference to evidentiary rules.

AMENDMENTS TO THE JUVENILE RULES**Sec. 33a-1. Initiation of Judicial Proceeding; Contents of Petitions and Summary of Facts**

(a) The petitioner shall set forth with reasonable particularity, including statutory references, the specific conditions which have resulted in the situation which is the subject of the petition.

(b) A summary of the facts substantiating the allegations of the petition, including such facts as bring the child or youth within the jurisdiction of the court, shall be attached thereto and shall be incorporated by reference.

COMMENTARY: The change to this section makes it consistent with General Statutes § 46b-129 (a).

Sec. 35a-21. Appeals in Child Protection Matters

(a) Unless a different period is provided by statute, appeals from final judgments or decisions of the Superior Court in child protection matters shall be taken within twenty days from the issuance of notice of the rendition of the judgment or decision from which the appeal is taken. If an extension to file an appeal is granted, the extension may not exceed an additional twenty days in all child protection appeals, except in an appeal in a termination of parental rights proceeding, the extension may not exceed an additional forty days [or within twenty days from the granting of any extension to appeal] pursuant to Section 79a-2.

(b) If an indigent party, child or youth wishes to appeal a final decision, the trial attorney shall file an appeal or seek review by an appellate review attorney in accordance with the rules for appeals in child protection matters in Chapter 79a. The reviewing attorney determining whether there is a nonfrivolous ground for appeal shall file a limited “in addition to” appearance with the trial court for purposes of reviewing the merits of an appeal. If the reviewing attorney determines there is merit to an appeal, [such attorney] the reviewing attorney shall notify the court, and the court shall grant the indigent party’s application for appellate counsel, who shall file a limited “in addition to” appearance for the appeal with the Appellate Court. The trial attorney shall remain in the underlying juvenile matters case in order to handle ongoing procedures before the local or regional juvenile court. Any attorney who files an appeal or files an appearance in the Appellate Court after an appeal has been filed shall be deemed to have appeared in the trial court for the limited purpose of prosecuting or defending the appeal.

(c) Unless a new appeal period is created pursuant to Section 79a-2 (a), the time to take an appeal shall not be extended past forty days[,] for an appeal from a judgment that did not result in a termination of parental rights (the original twenty days plus one twenty day extension for appellate review) or past sixty days for an appeal from a judgment terminating parental rights (the original twenty days plus one forty day extension for appellate review), from the date of the issuance of notice of the rendition of the judgment or decision.

COMMENTARY: The changes to this section and to Section 3-8 are in response to the Supreme Court opinion in *In re Taijha H.-B.*, 333 Conn. 297, 216 A.3d 601 (2019), and are intended to be consistent with revisions to the Rules of Appellate Procedure. It is critical that the Superior Court rules and the Rules of Appellate Procedure are adopted on or about the same time so that there is no conflict between them.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CRIMINAL RULES

Sec. 42-6. —View by Jury of Place or Thing Involved in Case

When the judicial authority is of the opinion that a viewing by the jury of the place where the offense being tried was committed, or of any other place or thing involved in the case, will be helpful to the jury in determining any material factual issue, it may in its discretion, at any time before the closing arguments, order that the jury be conducted to such place or location of such thing. During the viewing the jury must be kept together under the supervision of a proper officer appointed by the judicial authority. The judicial authority and an official court reporter or court recording monitor must be present, and, with the judicial authority's permission, any other person may be present. The

prosecuting authority, the defendant and defense counsel may as a matter of right be present, but the right may be waived. The purpose of viewing shall be solely to permit visual observation by the jury of the place or thing in question and to permit a brief description of the site or thing being viewed by the judicial authority or by any witness or witnesses as allowed by the judicial authority. Any proceedings at the location, including examination of witnesses, shall be at the discretion of the judicial authority. Neither the parties nor counsel nor the jurors while viewing the place or thing may engage in discussion of the significance or the implications of anything under observation or of any issue in the case.

COMMENTARY: The amendments to this section conform the terminology for official court reporters and court recording monitors to the provisions of No. 19-64 of the 2019 Public Acts.

Sec. 43-10. Sentencing Hearing; Procedures To Be Followed

Before imposing a sentence or making any other disposition after the acceptance of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or upon a verdict or finding of guilty, the judicial authority shall, upon the date previously determined for sentencing, conduct a sentencing hearing as follows:

(1) The judicial authority shall afford the parties an opportunity to be heard and, in its discretion, to present evidence on any matter relevant to the disposition, and to explain or controvert the presentence investigation report, the alternate incarceration assessment report or any other document relied upon by the judicial authority in imposing sentence. When the judicial authority finds that any significant information contained in the presentence report or alternate incarceration assessment report is inaccurate, it shall order the Office of Adult

Probation to amend all copies of any such report in its possession and in the clerk's file, and to provide both parties with an amendment containing the corrected information.

(2) The judicial authority shall allow the victim and any other person directly harmed by the commission of the crime a reasonable opportunity to make, orally or in writing, a statement with regard to the sentence to be imposed.

(3) The judicial authority shall allow the defendant a reasonable opportunity to make a personal statement in his or her own behalf and to present any information in mitigation of the sentence.

(4) In cases where guilt was determined by a plea, the judicial authority shall, pursuant to Section 39-7, be informed by the parties whether there is a plea agreement, and if so, the substance thereof.

(5) The judicial authority shall impose the sentence in the presence and hearing of the defendant, unless the defendant shall have waived his or her right to be present.

(6) In cases where sentence review is available, the judicial authority shall state on the record, in the presence of the defendant, the reasons for the sentence imposed.

(7) In cases where sentence review is available and where the defendant files an application for such review, the clerk shall promptly notify the official court reporter of such application pursuant to Section 43-24 and the official court reporter or court reporting monitor shall file a copy of the transcript of the sentencing hearing with the review division within sixty days from the date the application for review is filed with the clerk.

COMMENTARY: The amendments to this section conform the terminology for official court reporters and court recording monitors to the provisions of No. 19-64 of the 2019 Public Acts.

Sec. 43-24. —Time for Filing Application for Sentence Review

In cases where sentence review is available pursuant to General Statutes § 51-195, the defendant may file, within thirty days from the date that sentence is imposed or from the date defendant's suspended sentence is revoked, with the clerk of the court for the judicial district or geographical area in which the judgment was rendered, an application for review of sentence by the review division. The clerk shall notify the review division, the judge who imposed the sentence, the official court reporter, and all counsel of record upon the filing of the application for review. The official court reporter or court reporting monitor shall prepare a transcript of the sentencing hearing in accordance with the provisions of Section 43-10.

COMMENTARY: The amendments to this section conform the terminology for official court reporters and court recording monitors to the provisions of No. 19-64 of the 2019 Public Acts.

Sec. 44-27. —Hearing of Infractions, Violations to Which Not Guilty Plea Filed

(a) Upon entry of a plea of not guilty to an infraction or to a violation which is payable by mail pursuant to statute, the clerk shall file such plea and forthwith transmit the file to the prosecuting authority for review.

(b) Unless a nolle prosequi or a dismissal is entered in the matter within ten days of the filing of a not guilty plea, the clerk shall schedule a hearing and shall send the defendant a written notice of the date, time and place of such hearing.

(c) Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the [criminal rules of evidence] Connecticut Code of Evidence and with the provi-

sions of chapter 42 insofar as the provisions of that chapter are applicable.

(d) A nolle prosequi or a dismissal may be entered in the absence of the defendant. In the event a nolle prosequi or a dismissal is entered in the matter, the clerk shall send a written notice of such disposition to any defendant who was not before the court at the time of such disposition. The entry of a nolle prosequi hereunder shall not operate as a waiver of the defendant's right thereafter to seek a dismissal pursuant to Section 39-30.

COMMENTARY: The change to this section substitutes "Connecticut Code of Evidence" for "criminal rules of evidence" as the appropriate reference to evidentiary rules.

Sec. 44-30. —Hearing by Magistrates of Infractions and Certain Motor Vehicle Violations

(a) Infractions and motor vehicle violations which may be submitted to a magistrate pursuant to statute may be heard by magistrates in those court locations where a magistrate has been appointed by the chief court administrator, except that magistrates may not conduct jury trials.

(b) Hearings by magistrates shall be conducted in accordance with the [criminal rules of evidence] Connecticut Code of Evidence and with the provisions of chapter 42 insofar as the provisions of that chapter are applicable. A magistrate shall sign all orders the magistrate issues, such signature to be followed by the word "magistrate."

(c) A decision of the magistrate, including any penalty imposed, shall become a judgment of the court if no demand for a trial de novo is filed. Such decision of the magistrate shall become null and void if

a timely demand for a trial de novo is filed. A demand for a trial de novo shall be filed with the court clerk within five days of the date the decision was rendered by the magistrate and, if filed by the prosecuting authority, it shall include a certification that a copy thereof has been served on the defendant or his or her attorney, in accordance with the rules of practice.

(d) If the defendant is charged with more than one offense, and not all such offenses are motor vehicle violations within the jurisdiction of a magistrate, a judicial authority shall hear and decide such case.

(e) This section shall be inapplicable at any court location to which a magistrate has not been assigned by the chief court administrator.

COMMENTARY: The change to this section substitutes “Connecticut Code of Evidence” for “criminal rules of evidence” as the appropriate reference to evidentiary rules.

**Practice Book Rules Adopted, Amended or Suspended
Under Practice Book Section 1-9B in Light of the
Declared Public Health and Civil Preparedness Emergencies**

July 14, 2020

NOTICE

SUPERIOR COURT

On March 10, 2020, Governor Lamont declared public health and civil preparedness emergencies. On March 24, 2020, and May 11, 2020, the Rules Committee of the Superior Court met pursuant to its emergency authority in Practice Book Section 1-9B and adopted two new rules and amended or suspended various other rules that the Committee deemed necessary in light of the declared emergencies.

On June 26, 2020, the judges of the Superior Court considered the changes adopted by the Rules Committee and adopted the new rules and the changes to the various existing rules that are contained herein. This material should be used as a supplement to the Practice Book during the effective time periods set forth below. The amendments to Sections 23-68 and 44-10A are indicated by brackets for deletions and underlines for added language.

The new rules and the changes to the existing rules become effective on March 24, 2020, on an interim basis, pursuant to Section 1-9 of the Practice Book, but until no later than the duration of the declared emergencies, except that: (1) the amendments to Section 2-27A become effective on July 14, 2020, upon promulgation, by being published in the Connecticut Law Journal, on an interim basis, pursuant to Section 1-9 of the Practice Book; (2) the amendments to Sections 3-14 through 3-21 become effective on May 11, 2020, on an interim basis, pursuant to Section 1-9 of the Practice Book, but until no later than November 15, 2021; and (3) the amendments to Section 23-68

and 44-10A become effective on July 14, 2020, upon promulgation, by being published in the Connecticut Law Journal, on an interim basis, pursuant to Section 1-9 of the Practice Book.

In addition to the amendments and suspensions contained herein, Sections 2-11A, 2-27A, 6-1 and 35a-21 were amended by the judges of the Superior Court pursuant to Section 1-9. Please refer to the Notice contained in this edition of the Connecticut Law Journal on p. 1PB for further information on those amendments.

Attest:

Joseph J. Del Ciampo
Director of Legal Services

CHAPTER AND SECTION HEADING OF THE RULES

SUPERIOR COURT—GENERAL PROVISIONS

**CHAPTER 1
SCOPE OF RULES**

Sec.	
1-9C.	(NEW)—Adjustment or Suspension of Time or Location Requirement
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Superior Court – General Provisions

Chapter 1 – Scope of Rules

(NEW) Sec. 1-9C. —Adjustment or Suspension of Time or Location Requirement

The Chief Administrative Judge of each division, in consultation with the appropriate Presiding Judge of each Judicial District, if possible, and subject to the approval of the Chief Court Administrator, shall have the authority to adjust or suspend any time or location requirement in the Practice Book. Any such adjustment or suspension, as approved by the Chief Court Administrator, shall be effective immediately upon the issuance of an order by said Chief Administrative Judge; provided, however that (1) any such adjustment or suspension shall be reported to the Rules Committee of the Superior Court and (2) the Rules Committee may, on a prospective basis only, reject any such adjustment or suspension. Absent such rejection, any adjustment or suspension made hereunder shall be effective until further notice.

Sec. 1-24. Record of Off-Site Judicial Proceedings

Sec. 1-24 requires an on-the-record summary of off-site judicial proceedings “by the next court day.” Suspending this rule would allow flexibility for the court given limited resources.

Chapter 2 – Attorneys

Sec. 2-11A. Appeal from Decision of Bar Examining Committee concerning Conditions of Admission

Sec. 2-11A provides that an appeal of a decision of the Connecticut Bar Examining Committee be filed within thirty days of the decision.

Given the suspension of statutes of limitation, it is consistent to suspend this requirement.

Sec. 2-27A. Minimum Continuing Legal Education

The requirements of this are suspended for calendar year 2020, and any credits earned by attorneys in 2020 shall be allowed to be carried over completely to 2021, even if the amount exceeds the two hour cap provided for in the rule.

Sec. 2-28B (c) and (e). —Advisory Opinions

Sec. 2-28B (c) prescribes timelines by which the Statewide Grievance Committee must issue advisory opinions. Sec. 2-28B (e) states that the failure of the Committee to issue a timely opinion means that the Committee acquiesces that relevant advertisement or communication is compliant with the Rules. Current staffing levels require greater flexibility.

Sec. 2-32. Filing Complaints against Attorneys; Action; Time Limitation

Sec. 2-32 contains various deadlines, including deadlines that are akin to a statute of limitations. Sec. 2-32 (a) requires the statewide bar counsel to review and process complaints within seven days of receipt. Current staffing levels require greater flexibility.

Sec. 2-35. Action by Statewide Grievance Committee or Reviewing Committee

Sec. 2-35 contains various deadlines including a requirement that Disciplinary Counsel has fourteen days to respond to a request for review. Current staffing levels require greater flexibility.

Sec. 2-36. Action by Statewide Grievance Committee on Request for Review

Sec. 2-36 requires that the Statewide Grievance Committee must issue its decision on a request for review within sixty days. The current situation requires greater flexibility.

Sec. 2-38. Appeal from Decision of Statewide Grievance Committee or Reviewing Committee Imposing Sanctions or Conditions

Sec. 2-38 provides that an appeal of a grievance decision must be taken within thirty days. Given the suspension of statutes of limitation, it is consistent to suspend this requirement.

Sec. 2-39 (b). Reciprocal Discipline

Sec. 2-39 (b) sets forth time limits with regard to reciprocal discipline. The current situation requires greater flexibility.

Sec. 2-40 (f). Discipline of Attorneys Found Guilty of Serious Crimes in Connecticut

Sec. 2-40 (f) requires that a hearing on a presentment complaint shall be held within sixty days of the filing of the presentment. The current situation requires greater flexibility. Note that it is not recommend that Sec. 2-40 (d) be suspended. Sec. 2-40 (d) requires that “any attorney found guilty of any crime shall send written notice of the finding of guilt to the disciplinary counsel and the Statewide Grievance Committee, by certified mail, return receipt requested, or with electronic delivery confirmation, within ten days of the date of the finding of guilt.”

Sec. 2-41 (f). Discipline of Attorneys Found Guilty of Serious Crimes in Another Jurisdiction

Sec. 2-41 (f) requires that a hearing on a presentment complaint shall be held within sixty days of the filing of the presentment. The current situation requires greater flexibility. Note that it is not recommended that the Sec. 2-41 (d) be suspended. Sec. 2-41 (d) requires that “[a]ny attorney found guilty of any crime in another jurisdiction shall send written notice of the finding of guilt to the disciplinary counsel and the Statewide Grievance Committee, by certified mail, return receipt requested, or with electronic delivery confirmation, within ten days of the date of the finding of guilt.”

Sec. 2-47 (a). Presentments and Unauthorized Practice of Law Petitions

Sec. 2-47 (a) requires a hearing on the merits of the complaint shall be held within sixty days of the date a complaint was filed with the court. The current situation requires greater flexibility.

Sec. 2-53 (h) and (j). Reinstatement after Suspension, Disbarment or Resignation

Sec. 2-53 (h) requires that the Statewide Grievance Committee and the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel file a report with the standing committee within sixty days of referral from the chief justice. Sec. 2-53 (j) requires that the standing committee shall complete its work within 180 days of the referral. The current situation requires greater flexibility.

Sec. 2-70 (a). —Client Security Fund Fee

Sec. 2-70 (a) requires the collection of the Client Security Fund Fee. Suspension of the rule would allow for flexibility in assessing the fee.

Sec. 2-71 (a) (3). —Eligible Claims

Sec. 2-71 (a) (3) requires that claims for reimbursement be filed within four years. Given the suspension of statutes of limitation, it is consistent to suspend this requirement.

Sec. 2-75 (a). —Processing Claims

Sec. 2-75 (a) sets forth timelines by which the client security fund committee and attorney must take certain actions. The current situation requires greater flexibility.

Sec. 2-79 (a). —Enforcement of Payment of Fee

Sec. 2-79 (a) sets out the timeframe for administrative suspensions. The current situation requires greater flexibility.

Chapter 3 – Appearances**Sec. 3-2. Time To File Appearance**

Appearances must be filed within two days of the return day to avoid the filing of a Motion for Default for Failure to Appear. We are suspending this requirement as no default orders are issuing at this time.

(NEW) Sec. 3-22. Certified Law School Graduates

(a) On a temporary and emergency basis, Sections 3-14 through 3-21 are expanded for 2019 and 2020 law school graduates who have not previously taken an administration of any bar examination before

February 2020 and who have graduated from a law school approved by the American Bar Association or by the Committee (“Certified Law School Graduates”).

(b) The supervising attorney for a Certified Law School Graduate must be in good standing and have no history of professional discipline, including administrative suspension.

(c) For civil cases, the supervising attorney is not required to be present in court with the Certified Law School Graduate: (1) for short calendar call and argument; (2) to report and seek ratification by the Court of a written agreement; (3) to conduct an unopposed foreclosure proceeding seeking judgment; (4) to participate in a pre-trial conference or status conference; (5) to participate in an uncontested dissolution of marriage proceeding; or (6) to participate in the housing court mediation program; so long as the person or entity on whose behalf the appearance is being made consents to the absence of the supervising attorney. However, the supervising attorney must be present during trial.

(d) For all criminal cases, the supervising attorney must be present in court with the Certified Law School Graduate.

(e) For oral argument before the Connecticut Appellate or Supreme Court, the supervising attorney must be present in court with the Certified Law School Graduate.

(f) A Certified Law School Graduate may, under the general supervision of the supervising attorney but outside of his or her presence, give legal advice to a client, negotiate on behalf of a client, and prepare

contracts and other documents for the client, provided that the graduate obtains the supervising attorney's approval of any legal advice, negotiation plan, or final document.

(g) The certification for each Certified Law School Graduate shall remain in effect until November 15, 2021, unless terminated at an earlier date by the Dean or Superior Court in accordance with Section 3-18.

(h) In all other respects, Sections 3-14 through 3-21 remain unchanged, and legal interns may continue to appear and/or practice to the extent permitted under the existing rules.

Chapter 4 – Pleadings

Sec. 4-5 (b). Notice Required for Ex Parte Temporary Injunctions

Temporary Injunction orders expire thirty days after issuance unless the court holds a hearing and makes factual findings. This may not be possible under prevailing circumstances.

Chapter 6 – Judgments

Sec. 6-1 (c). Statement of Decision; When Required

This section involves appeals of Section 14-3 dismissals for lack of diligence and requires parties to file briefs within twenty days of filing the appeal. This is not a problem if they are e-filed or filed on paper (by excluded attorneys and self-represented parties). The problem is that the judicial authority is required to issue a memorandum of decision

within twenty days of briefs being filed. It is likely that the appeals will not be processed in a timely manner, if at all, and that judges will be unable to meet this deadline.

Chapter 7 – Clerks; Files and Records

Sec. 7-4B (d). Motion To File Record under Seal

Sec. 7-4B (d) provides that the clerk shall return or destroy a lodged record upon the expiration of the appeal period. Given the current situation, destruction on such a tight schedule may not be advisable.

Sec. 7-13. —Criminal/Motor Vehicle Files and Records

Sec. 7-13 addresses the destruction of files and mandates the destruction of certain criminal files. The timelines for such destruction may not be appropriate given the current situation.

Sec. 7-14. —Reports from Adult Probation and Family Division

Sec. 7-14 addresses the destruction of Reports from the Adult Probation and Family Division. The timelines for such destruction may not be appropriate given the current situation.

Sec. 7-17. Clerks' Offices

Sec. 7-17 provides that each clerk's office shall be open at least five days per week, except during weeks with a legal holiday. The current situation requires that the Chief Court Administrator have greater flexibility to operate the clerk's offices and courthouses.

Superior Court – Procedure in Civil Matters

Chapter 11 – Motions, Requests, Orders of Notice and Short Calendar

Sec. 11-14. —Short Calendar; Frequency; Time; Lists

This section requires short calendar to be held at least once a month. Unfortunately, we may not be able to comply with this.

Sec. 11-19 (a). —Time Limit for Deciding Short Calendar Matters

This section imposes a 120 day time limit for decisions on short calendar matters. Currently, all civil short calendars are cancelled, but even if this were to change, we may not be able to process the orders due to reduced staffing levels, even if they are completed. Also, those judges who are unable to work from home will not be able to complete their decisions.

Sec. 11-20A. Sealing Files or Limiting Disclosure of Documents in Civil Cases

According to this section, all sealing motions must be placed on short calendar within fifteen days of filing. Until short calendar is recommenced, this section cannot be complied with.

Chapter 17 – Judgments

Sec. 17-30 (a) and (b). —Summary Process; Default and Judgment for Failure To Appear or Plead

Subsection (a) requires summary process defendants to appear within two days of the return day or be subject to being defaulted for

failure to appear. Under subsection (b), if the defendant fails to plead within two days of return date, the plaintiff can file a motion for judgment and if no responsive pleading is filed within three days of the motion, the judicial authority shall enter judgment of possession. Clearly, we do not want these provisions to be enforced against tenants right now.

Chapter 23 – Miscellaneous Remedies and Procedures

Sec. 23-20. Review of Civil Contempt

This section requires that those held on civil contempt orders be brought to court within thirty days for a hearing. This may not be possible under current circumstances.

Sec. 23-68. Where Presence of Person May Be by Means of an Interactive Audiovisual Device

(a) Upon motion of any party, and at the discretion of the judicial authority, any party, counsel, witness, or other participant in [a] any proceeding may appear by means of an interactive audiovisual device at any proceeding scheduled to be heard in-person in any civil matter, including all proceedings within the jurisdiction of the small claims section, or any family matter, including all proceedings within the jurisdiction of the family support magistrate division.

(b) [Upon order of the judicial authority, an incarcerated individual] At the discretion of the judicial authority, any party, counsel, witness or other participant in a proceeding may be required to appear by

means of an interactive audiovisual device in any [civil or family matter] civil matter, including all proceedings within the jurisdiction of the small claims section, or any family matter, including all proceedings within the jurisdiction of the family support magistrate.

(c) For purposes of this section, an interactive audiovisual device must operate so that the judicial authority; any party and his or her counsel, if any; and any person appearing by means of an interactive audiovisual device pursuant to a court order under this section can see and communicate with each other simultaneously. In addition, a procedure by which an incarcerated individual and his or her counsel can confer in private must be provided.

(d) Unless otherwise required by law or unless otherwise ordered by the judicial authority, prior to any proceeding in which a person appears by means of an interactive audiovisual device, copies of all documents which may be offered at the proceeding shall be provided to all counsel and self-represented parties in advance of the proceeding.

(e) An officer, as identified in General Statutes § 1-24, may administer an oath by means of an interactive audiovisual device to any party, witness or other participant in a proceeding who appears pursuant to this section, provided such officer can see, hear and clearly identify the participant to whom the oath is to be administered via the audiovisual device.

[(e)] (f) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to limit the discretion of the judicial authority to deny a request to appear by means of an interactive audiovisual device where, in the judicial

authority's judgment, the interest of justice or the presentation of the case require that the party, counsel, witness, or other participant in the proceeding appear in person.

(g) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to preclude the Judicial Branch, at the discretion of the chief court administrator, from handling any matter remotely.

~~[(f)]~~ (h) For purposes of this section, judicial authority includes family support magistrates and magistrates appointed by the chief court administrator pursuant to General Statutes § 51-193/.

Chapter 24 – Small Claims

Sec. 24-15 (a). —Scheduling of Hearings; Continuances

This section requires Small Claims hearings to be held between six and forty-five days after the answer date. This is clearly impossible right now given the fact that Small Claims court is suspended.

Superior Court – Procedure in Family Matters

Chapter 25 – General Provisions

Sec. 25-3. Action for Custody of Minor Child

This rule requires hearings on new custody applications to be held no more than thirty days from filing. We are continuing, and should continue, to accept new filings and the clerks must set dates for hearings and for service of the papers on the opposing party, but under

current circumstances it is not feasible to set a hearing date within the thirty-day time limit.

Sec. 25-4. Action for Visitation of Minor Child

This rule requires hearings on new visitation applications to be held no more than thirty days from filing. We have the same concern as for custody applications described above.

Sec. 25-17. —Date for Hearing

This rule requires that a motion to strike in a family case be placed on a short calendar within fifteen days. Such motions in family are very rare, but if one were to be filed, the court likely would be unable to meet the time requirement.

**Sec. 25-59A. Sealing Files or Limiting Disclosure of Documents
in Family Matters**

This rule, in subsection (f) (1), requires that a motion to seal a file in a family case be placed on a short calendar within fifteen days, which likely would not be possible.

**Superior Court – Procedure in Family Support
Magistrate Matters**

Chapter 25a – Family Support Magistrate Matters

Sec. 25a-2. Prompt Filing of Appearance

This section requires appearances in Title IV-D child support matters (which could include appearances by Support Enforcement Services), to be filed “promptly,” which may not be possible.

Sec. 25a-3. Withdrawal of Appearance; Duration of Appearance

This section establishes automatic time periods for the withdrawal of appearances which may not be feasible and may result in the premature elimination of attorney appearances.

Sec. 25a-14. —Continuances when Counsel’s Presence or Oral Argument Required

This section only allows for continuances from certain short calendar matters for good cause shown, unless the parties agree or the court orders otherwise.

Sec. 25a-15. Statements To Be Filed

This rule imposes on parties and counsel the obligation to file certain documents before a hearing. It may not be necessary to address this as it involves time periods binding on the parties, not the court, and would likely be deemed moot if the hearing did not go forward due to the limited court operations.

Sec. 25a-17. Motion To Open Judgment of Paternity by Acknowledgment

This rule requires hearings on motions to open acknowledgments of paternity to be held no more than thirty days from filing. Under current circumstances, it is not feasible to set a hearing date within the thirty-day time limit.

Sec. 25a-19. Standard Disclosure and Production

This rule imposes on parties and counsel the obligation to exchange certain documents by way of discovery within thirty days of a request or order. It involves time periods binding on the parties, not the court.

Sec. 25a-23. Answers to Interrogatories

This rule imposes on parties and counsel the obligation to respond to interrogatories within sixty days. It also involves time periods binding on the parties, not the court, although a request for extension of time may be filed with the court.

Superior Court – Procedure in Juvenile Matters**Chapter 30 – Detention****Sec. 30-7. Place of Detention Hearings**

Pursuant to the Branch's consolidation of courts, only two of the eleven juvenile courthouses remain open. Priority 1 delinquency cases are being heard only in the Hartford and Bridgeport juvenile courthouses.

Chapter 31a – Delinquency and Family with**Service Needs Motions and Applications****Sec. 31a-1A (a). Continuances and Advancements**

Non-priority 1 cases are not being processed or assigned court dates.

Chapter 34a – Pleadings, Motions and Discovery**Neglected, Abused and Uncared for Children and****Termination of Parental Rights****Sec. 34a-1 (c). Motions, Requests and Amendments**

Termination of Parental Rights (TPRs) are now deemed non-priority 1 cases as are all other child protection matters except for Orders of Temporary Custody (OTCs).

Sec. 34a-5. Continuances and Advancements

Same as above.

**Chapter 35a – Hearings Concerning Neglected,
Abused and Uncared for Children and
Termination of Parental Rights**

Sec. 35a-12 (b), (c), and (e). Protective Supervision —Conditions, Modification, and Termination

Protective supervision cases require an in court review hearing no less than thirty days prior to protective supervision ending. These are not priority 1 cases and therefore cannot be scheduled or addressed.

Sec. 35a-14 (c), (f), and (h). Motions for Review of Permanency Plan

Children adjudicated abused/neglected and/or uncared for and committed to DCF until further order of the court – nine months after commitment (or date of entering DCF care) DCF must file permanency plan, and a court hearing to approve a permanency plan must occur every twelve months. Adherence to such a timetable is not possible under the present circumstances. These are not priority 1 cases.

Sec. 35a-21 (a) and (c). Appeals in Child Protection Matters

Child protection appeals, except those involving OTC, are not priority 1 cases.

Superior Court – Procedure in Criminal Matters

Chapter 37 – Arraignment

Sec. 37-1. Arraignment; Timing

The request is being made to allow flexibility in the timing of the presentment of a defendant before a court. In the event that arraignment procedures needed to be modified to a more restricted schedule, the suspension of the rule would permit the arraignments to be conducted in a manner consistent with the court's ability to operate.

Sec. 37-12. Defendant in Custody; Determination of Probable Cause

The courts have continued to maintain probable cause findings, specifically as it relates to weekend arrests. In the event that it is not possible to have this finding within forty-eight hours, the suspension of the rule would permit the court to make the probable cause determination at the soonest date available under the circumstances. The suspension would also address the sealing requirement so as not to require a party to respond within seven days for recommendations as to the court order and also allows the court to continue its sealing order beyond fourteen days. This suspension of the rule would allow for appropriate notice and a full hearing to take place on the merits of any sealing order.

Chapter 38 – Pretrial Release

Sec. 38-6. Appearance after Release

The suspension of the rule only applies to a defendant who is not in custody. Currently, the courts are receiving all domestic arraignments on the next court date. All domestic arraignments have protective orders issued by law enforcement which remain in effect until the defendant is seen before the court. In the event that it is not possible to conduct an arraignment on the next court date, the suspension of the rule would allow for the court to schedule the first presentment on a different, but still expedited date. In cases where the defendant is not in custody and it is not a domestic arraignment, the suspension of the rule requiring an initial appearance of not more than fourteen days allows the courts to maintain appropriately sized dockets and provides notice to all parties as to the scheduling of the cases.

Sec. 38-18. —Review of Detention Prior to Arraignment, Trial or Sentencing

The rule requires the review of any detained person's bail within forty-five days and within thirty days if the person is held on a misdemeanor or class D felony. The suspension of the rule would remove mandatory bail reviews within these time restraints. A court could still conduct bail reviews by way of motion or through a videoconference at an appropriately scheduled date.

Sec. 38-21. —Forfeiture of Bail and Rearrest Warrant

The rule requires any person whose bond has been forfeited to be returned to custody within six months in order to release a surety from their bond obligation. The suspension of the rule would allow the surety additional time to locate the person and is consistent with the court focusing on designated priority cases.

Chapter 40 – Discovery and Depositions**Sec. 40-11. Disclosure by the Prosecuting Authority**

The rule requires the prosecution to disclose certain materials within forty-five days from the filing of a request to disclose. By suspending the rule, it would allow the court to permit an extension of this time period without requiring each case to have a finding of good cause shown for the delay.

Sec. 40-13. Names of Witnesses; Prior Record of Witnesses; Statements of Witnesses

The rule requires the prosecution to disclose the names of witnesses, the records of witnesses and the statements of witnesses within forty-five days from the filing of a request to produce these materials. By suspending the rule, it would allow the court to permit an extension of this time period without requiring each case to have a finding of good cause shown for the delay.

Sec. 40-13A. Law Enforcement Reports, Affidavits and Statements

The rule requires the prosecution to disclose certain materials within forty-five days from the filing of a request to disclose. By suspending the rule, it would allow the court to permit an extension of this time period without requiring each case to have a finding of good cause shown for the delay.

Sec. 40-17. Defense of Mental Disease or Defect or Extreme Emotional Disturbance; Notice by Defendant

The rule requires the defendant, when relying on one of the above-captioned affirmative defenses, to notice the prosecution within forty-five days of the intention to use said defense. By suspending the rule, it would allow the court to permit an extension of this time period without requiring each case to have a finding of good cause shown for the delay.

Sec. 40-18. —Notice by Defendant of Intention To Use Expert Testimony regarding Mental State; Filing Reports of Exam

The rule requires the defendant to notice the prosecution within forty-five days of the intention to use an expert witness and to produce the report of the expert within five days of receipt. By suspending the rule, it would allow the court to permit an extension of this time period without requiring each case to have a finding of good cause shown for the delay.

Sec. 40-21. Defense of Alibi; Notice by Defendant

The rule requires the defendant to notice the prosecution within twenty days after written demand of the intention to use said defense. By suspending the rule, it would allow the court to permit an extension of this time period without requiring each case to have the court direct the time period in which the defense needs to comply with the notice.

Sec. 40-22. —Notice by Prosecuting Authority concerning Alibi Defense

The rule requires the prosecution to notice the defense within twenty days, but no less than ten days before trial, the use of witnesses to rebut an alibi defense. By suspending the rule, it would allow the court to permit an extension of this time period without requiring each case to have the court direct the time period in which the prosecution needs to comply with the notice.

Sec. 40-26. Disclosure by the Defendant; Information and Materials Discoverable by the Prosecuting Authority as of Right

The rule requires the prosecution to disclose certain materials within forty-five days from the filing of a request to disclose. By suspending the rule, it would allow the court to permit an extension of this time period without requiring each case to have a finding of good cause shown for the delay.

Chapter 41 – Pretrial Motions

Sec. 41-5. —Time for Making Pretrial Motions or Requests*

The rule requires the filing of pretrial motions not later than ten days after the first pretrial conference. By suspending the rule, the court will not be required to grant permission for an extension of time due to the current circumstances.

*The title to this section was corrected.

Chapter 42 – Trial Procedure

Sec. 42-49A. Sealing or Limiting Disclosure of Documents in Criminal Cases

The rule pertains to any motion sealing or limiting order on criminal documents which must be held not less than fifteen days following the filing of the motion and must notice the public as to the date, time and place of the hearing. By suspending the rule, it would allow the court to provide appropriate notice and to schedule a full hearing to take place on the merits of any sealing order.

Sec. 42-52. —Time for Filing Motion for Judgment of Acquittal

The rule pertains to requiring the motion to be filed within five days after a mistrial or verdict. By suspending the rule for those cases affected by the current situation, the court would be allowed to extend the timing as it deems appropriate.

Sec. 42-54. —Time for Filing Motion for New Trial

The rule pertains to requiring the motion to be filed within five days after a verdict. By suspending the rule for those cases affected by the current situation, the court would be allowed to extend the timing as it deems appropriate.

Chapter 43 – Sentencing, Judgment and Appeal**Sec. 43-24. —Time for Filing Application for Sentence Review**

By suspending the rule, it would dispense with the thirty day time requirement for filing an application for sentence review. Because of the limited courthouse access, some filings may not be able to be processed within the time frame allowed.

Sec. 43-33. Appointment of Initial Counsel for Appeal by Indigent Defendant

The rule requires the application to be heard within twenty days. By suspending the rule, it will allow the courts to maintain appropriately sized dockets and not require a finding of good cause shown under the circumstances.

Sec. 43-39. Speedy Trial; Time Limitations

The suspension of the rule would allow the court flexibility in scheduling a trial, in the event that trials are restricted. The suspension would still allow courts the ability to schedule trials as expeditiously as possible.

Chapter 44 – General Provisions

Sec. 44-10A. —Where Presence of Defendant May Be by Means of an Interactive Audiovisual Device

(a) Unless otherwise ordered by the judicial authority, and in the discretion of the judicial authority, a defendant may be present by means of an interactive audiovisual device for the following proceedings:

(1) Hearings concerning indigency pursuant to General Statutes § 52-259b;

(2) Hearings concerning asset forfeiture, unless the testimony of witnesses is required;

(3) Hearings regarding seized property, unless the testimony of witnesses is required;

(4) With the defendant's consent, bail modification hearings pursuant to Section 38-14;

(5) Sentence review hearings pursuant to General Statutes § 51-195;

(6) Proceedings under General Statutes § 54-56d (k) if the evaluation under General Statutes § 54-56d (j) concludes that the defendant is not competent but is restorable and neither the state nor the defendant intends to contest that conclusion;

(7) Arraignments, provided that counsel for the defendant has been given the opportunity to meet with the defendant prior to the arraignment;

(8) A disposition conference held in the judicial district court pursuant to the provisions of Sections 39-11 through 39-17 when it is not reasonably anticipated that an offer for the final disposition of the case will be accepted or rejected upon the conclusion of the conference;

(9) With the consent of counsel a disposition conference held in the geographical area court pursuant to the provisions of Sections 39-11 through 39-17 when it is not reasonably anticipated that an offer for the final disposition of the case will be accepted or rejected upon the conclusion of the conference;

(10) The first scheduled court appearance of the defendant in the judicial district court following the transfer of the case from the geographical area court;

(11) Hearings regarding motions to correct an illegal sentence; and

(12) Hearings regarding motions for sentence modification.

(b) Such audiovisual device must operate so that the defendant, his or her attorney, if any, and the judicial authority can see and communicate with each other simultaneously. In addition, a procedure by which the defendant and his or her attorney can confer in private must be provided.

(c) Unless otherwise required by law or ordered by the judicial authority, prior to any proceeding in which a person appears by means of an interactive audiovisual device, copies of all documents which

may be offered at the proceeding shall be provided to all counsel and self-represented parties in advance of the proceeding.

(d) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to establish a right for any person to appear by means of an interactive audiovisual device.

(e) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to preclude the Judicial Branch, at the discretion of the chief court administrator, from handling any matter remotely.

Sec. 44-13. —Scheduling of Proceedings before Trial; Continuances

The rule requires that a continuance shall not exceed two weeks. The suspension of the rule would give the courts the flexibility necessary to maintain appropriately sized dockets and attend to those matters designated as priority cases.

Sec. 44-14. —Assignments for Plea in Judicial District Court Location

The rule requires that the assignment to a Judicial District shall not exceed two weeks. The suspension of the rule would give the courts the flexibility necessary to maintain appropriately sized dockets and attend to those matters designated as priority cases.

Sec. 44-27. —Hearing of Infractions, Violations to Which Not Guilty Plea Filed

The rule requires that within ten days of filing a not guilty plea, the clerk shall schedule a hearing in the matter. By allowing the suspension

of the rule, it will allow the courts to delay scheduling of infractions so that they may focus on those matters designated as priority cases.

**Sec. 44-30. —Hearing by Magistrates of Infractions and Certain
Motor Vehicle Violations**

Suspension of the rule will dispense with the five day time requirement imposed on the defendant to file a trial de novo during this time period.
