

FILED

MAR 11 2011

Clerk of the Courts

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE**

**IN RE: PETITION FOR THE ADOPTION OF AMENDED TENNESSEE
CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT TOGETHER WITH CHANGES IN
RULES AND STATUTES**

No. M2011-00420-SC-RL1-RL - Filed: March 11, 2011

ORDER

Rule 10, Rules of the Tennessee Supreme Court, sets out the Code of Judicial Conduct (the ethics rules applicable to Tennessee judges). On February 25, 2011, the Tennessee Bar Association (“TBA”) filed a petition asking the Court to adopt an amended Tennessee Code of Judicial Conduct. In summary, the petition asks the Court to amend Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 10 by replacing the existing Code of Judicial Conduct with the TBA’s proposed new Code of Judicial Conduct. The TBA’s proposed revision of Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 10 is set out in Exhibit A to the petition. In addition to proposing a revision of the Code of Judicial Conduct set out in Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 10, the TBA’s petition also proposes specific amendments to various other court rules and statutes “to harmonize the provisions of those specific rules and statutes with the revisions suggested in the draft Code submitted herewith.” The proposed amendments to other court rules and to state statutes are set out in Exhibits B - D to the petition. The TBA’s petition and the exhibits thereto are set out in the attached appendix to this order.

Adopting the TBA’s proposed amendments would result in a comprehensive revision of the current Tennessee Code of Judicial Conduct. In light of the important public policy issues raised by the petition, the Court hereby solicits written comments regarding the TBA’s proposed amendments from judges, lawyers, bar associations, members of the public, and any other interested parties. The deadline for submitting written comments is Tuesday, November 1, 2011. Written comments should be addressed to:

Mike Catalano, Clerk
Tennessee Appellate Courts
100 Supreme Court Building
401 7th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37219-1407

and should reference the docket number set out above.

The Clerk shall provide a copy of this order, including the appendix, to LexisNexis and to Thomson Reuters. In addition, this order, including the appendix, shall be posted on the Tennessee Supreme Court's website. The Court also directs the TBA to serve a copy of this order on the individuals and organizations listed in Exhibit F to the petition; because the TBA previously served the petition and exhibits on those individuals and organizations, the TBA, in serving a copy of this order, is not required to include the appendix to the order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

PER CURIAM

APPENDIX

The appendix is comprised of the following documents, which are attached:

1. TBA's "Petition for the Adoption of Amended Tennessee Code of Judicial Conduct Together With Changes in Rules and Statutes";
2. Exhibit A to the Petition: "Proposed New Tennessee Code of Judicial Conduct";
3. Exhibit B to the Petition: "Proposed Changes to Tennessee Rules of Civil, Criminal and Appellate Procedure";
4. Exhibit C to the Petition: "Proposed Changes to Tennessee Supreme Court Rules";
5. Exhibit D to the Petition: "Suggested Amendments to Tennessee Statutes";
6. Exhibit E to the Petition: "The New Politics of Judicial Elections 2000-2009";
7. Exhibit F to the Petition: list of organizations and individuals upon whom the petition and exhibits thereto were served by the TBA.