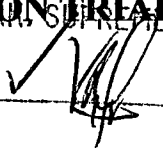


IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA **FILED**
THOMAS D. HALL

IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA RULES OF JUDICIAL
ADMINISTRATION AND THE FLORIDA RULES OF APPELLATE
PROCEDURE – IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMISSION ON TRIAL COURT
COURT PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY
RECOMMENDATIONS

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CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
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CASE NO. SC08-1658

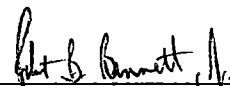
**RESPONSE OF THE COMMISSION ON TRIAL COURT
PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY TO COMMENTS**

The Honorable Robert B. Bennett, Jr., Chair, Commission on Trial Court Performance and Accountability (Commission), pursuant to the Publication Notice issued by this Court on September 9, 2008, files this response of the Commission to comments filed in the above-referenced matters.

The Commission declines to respond to the comments filed, and relies instead upon the explanation, rationale and arguments concerning its proposed rule changes presented to the Court in its rules petition, filed December 5, 2007. The rules petition presently is before the Court as Appendix F to the Report of the Rules of Judicial Administration Committee, filed August 18, 2008, and August 20, 2008, and as Appendix E to the Report of the Appellate Court Rules Committee, filed August 29, 2008.

If the Court grants the request for oral argument filed by the Public Defender Association, Inc., in this case, the Commission requests participation in the argument.

Respectfully submitted this December 8¹⁵, 2008.



Robert B. Bennett, Jr., Chair
Commission on Trial Court
Performance and Accountability
2002 Ringling Boulevard, Floor 8
Sarasota, FL 34237-7002

CERTIFICATIONS

CERTIFICATE OF FONT COMPLIANCE

I certify that this response was prepared in 14-point Times New Roman font.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Response was furnished by U.S. Mail to Scott Dimond, Chair, Rules of Judicial Administration Committee, Dimond, Kaplan & Rothstein, P.A., 2665 S. Bayshore Dr. PH-2B, Miami, FL 33133-5448; John S. Mills, Chair, Appellate Court Rules Committee, Mills, Creed & Gowdy, P.A., 865 May St., Jacksonville, FL 32204-3310; John F. Harkness, Jr., Executive Director, The Florida Bar, 651 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-6584; Robert Dewitt Trammell, Florida Public Defender Association, Inc., P.O. Box 1799, Tallahassee, FL 32302; Barbara A. Peterson and Adria E. Harper, First Amendment Foundation, 336 East College Avenue, Suite 101, Tallahassee, FL 32301; Rachel E. Fugate and Gregg D. Thomas, Thomas and Locicero, 400 N. Ashley Dr., Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33602; Jennifer Gaul and Susan D. Wasilewski, Florida Court Reporters Association and the Florida Coalition on Court Reporter Certification, 222 S. Westmonte Drive, Suite 101, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714; Mary Watson, 1817 Montague St., Lake Worth, FL 33461; and the Honorable Robert J. Morris, Chief Judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit, and B. Elaine New, Court Counsel, Sixth Judicial Circuit, 501 1st Avenue North, Suite 1000, St. Petersburg, FL 33701 this 15th day of December, 2008.



Laura Rush

Staff to the Commission on Trial Court
Performance and Accountability
General Counsel
Office of the State Courts Administrator
500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, FL 342399-1900
Florida Bar No. 613959
(850) 488-1824
(850) 410-5301 Fax
rushl@flcourts.org