IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, FLORIDA RULES OF JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION, FLORIDA RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, FLORIDA PROBATE RULES, FLORIDA SMALL CLAIMS RULES, FLORIDA RULES OF JUVENILE PROCEDURE, FLORIDA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE, FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE

Case No. SC11-399

COMMENT OF THE
REAL PROPERTY, PROBATE AND TRUST LAW SECTION
OF THE FLORIDA BAR

The Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of The Florida Bar ("RTTPL"), through its Chair, George J. Meyer, files this comment regarding the proposed rule 2.520 of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration requiring, *inter alia*, mandatory e-filing by attorneys. Specifically, this comment pertains to the Supplemental Comment of the Florida Court Technology Commission (FCTC) filed in this proceeding on October 7, 2011. Authority for this comment is provided by orders of this court dated August 8, 2011 and August 18. 2011.

Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of The Florida Bar. RPPTL consists of nearly 10,000 members of The Florida Bar, most of whom are impacted in some manner by the civil divisions of trial courts and the appellate courts in Florida. RPPTL is governed by an Executive Council of over 250 members, which

meets five times each year, and has established numerous general standing committees, one of which is the Florida Electronic Filing and Service Committee. That committee monitors the progress of electronic court filing in Florida, and provides assistance to the participating parties as necessary and possible. As part of RPPTL's core mission, over 16 continuing education seminars are provided each year. RPPTL has included updates regarding e-filing and related issues in several of its recent continuing education programs and its Executive Council meetings, and intends to be very active in educating its members regarding court e-filing as more information becomes available and the system becomes more efficient.

Proposal by Florida Court Technology Commission. The FCTC has proposed that mandatory e-filing would become effective no later than March 1, 2013 for all civil divisions of trial courts and that e-filing in all appellate cases would become mandatory for all attorneys by October 1, 2012. (The FCTC also proposes mandatory e-filing in all criminal divisions no later than September 30, 2013.)

Position of RPPTL. RPPTL endorses the concept of mandatory e-filing for all Florida attorneys in all Florida courts. The schedule proposed by the FCTC is reasonable and should be adopted.

RPPTL stands ready to assist the court and The Florida Bar regarding the implementation of mandatory e-filing for all Florida attorneys. Specifically, RPPTL is committed to increase its delivery of training and education of its members, and other Florida attorneys, regarding court e-filing and related issues on a schedule that will accommodate the court's adoption of the FCTC's proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

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In the absence of George J. Meyer, signed on his behalf and at his direction for the Section by Rohan Kelley, Florida Bar No. 42060

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the original and nine copies of the foregoing have been filed with the Clerk of the Florida Supreme Court; and that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished to those listed below, this ___ day of October 2011, by U.S. Mail at the address indicated:

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_____
Rohan Kelley

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I certify that the foregoing has been submitted in compliance with the requirements of Fla. R. App. P. 9.210(a)(2).

_____

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