



Supreme Court of Florida

500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1925

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CLERK OF COURT

SILVESTER DAWSON
MARSHAL

August 19, 2019

The Honorable Josephine Gagliardi, Chair
Rules of Judicial Administration Committee
Lee County Justice Center
1700 Monroe Street
Fort Myers, Florida 33901-3071

Re: Marsy's Law Rule Amendments

Dear Judge Gagliardi:

At the direction of the Court, I am writing you in your capacity as Chair of the Rules of Judicial Administration Committee to ask your committee to coordinate the submission of a joint out-of-cycle rules report, as provided for in Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.140(a)(7). The Court would like The Florida Bar's rules committees to review their respective bodies of rules and propose any rule amendments that may be required in response to the recent victims' rights constitutional amendment known as Marsy's Law. *See* art. I, § 16(b)-(e), Fla. Const.

As I am sure you know, the Marsy's Law amendment, which went into effect in Florida on January 8, 2019, revised and established various crime victims' rights under the Florida Constitution. The Court is aware that some of the rules committees are independently considering or have considered whether rule changes are warranted in response to the amendment and the various legislation that has been enacted to implement the new constitutional mandates. However, the Court is dedicated to taking a more concentrated, comprehensive approach to

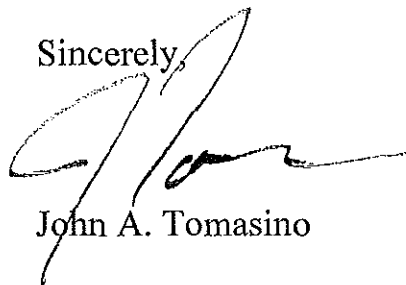
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conforming branch practices and court rules, to the extent possible, with the victim-focused constitutional requirements. In furtherance of that effort, the Court asks your committee, the Appellate Court Rules Committee, the Criminal Procedure Rules Committee, the Juvenile Court Rules Committee, the Traffic Court Rules Committee, and any other committee you determine should be involved in this joint project to conduct a coordinated, comprehensive, and consistent review of their respective bodies of rules to determine whether amendments or additional rules are need to implement the new constitutional mandates or any of the responsive laws that have been enacted. As indicated above, the committees should follow the rule 2.140(a)(7) procedures for joint rules submissions.

Please file the joint out-of-cycle report with my office by February 17, 2020, with copies to the liaison justices to the proposing committees and Deborah Meyer, the Court's director of central staff. The committees should publish all their proposals for comment and consider any comments before the proposals are filed with the Court. Committees that determine no amendments to their bodies of rules are warranted should file a joint no action report, as provided in rule 2.140(f)(2). If the committees should need more time to complete their work, please submit a request for extension of time to my office indicating when the joint report can be filed. The Court thanks you and the committees, in advance, for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John A. Tomasino', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John A. Tomasino

JAT/dm/sb

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cc: The Honorable Charles T. Canady, Chief Justice
The Honorable Ricky Polston, Liaison, Rules of Jud. Admin. Committee
The Honorable Barbara Lagoa, Liaison, Crim. Pro. & Juv. Court Rules
Committees
The Honorable Robert J. Luck, Liaison, App. Court Rules Committee
The Honorable Carlos G. Muñiz, Liaison, Traffic Court Rules Committee
Mr. Joshua E. Doyle, Executive Director, The Florida Bar
✓Ms. Krys Godwin, Bar Staff Liaison, Rules of Jud. Admin. Committee
Ms. Deborah J. Meyer, Supreme Court Director of Central Staff