

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO. SC22-122

IN RE: REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE WORKGROUP ON IMPROVED
RESOLUTION OF CIVIL CASES

COMMENT TO PROPOSED RULES 1.460(b) AND 1.200(f)(5)

The undersigned attorney, Edgar Velazquez, provides this comment to proposed Rules 1.460(b) and 1.200(f)(5) to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure.

I have been a practicing litigator in Florida for 18 years. The proposed rules regarding trial continuances and proposed Rule 1.200(f)(5) impose unreasonably onerous burdens on both the bench and bar, the likes of which few, if any, other jurisdictions have imposed. While it is understood that trial law is not for the “faint of heart” and demands much time and energy, litigators must also dedicate time and energy to their families.

I have been married for nearly 16 years and have three daughters, ages 15, 11, and 3. Vacation time away from trial practice to dedicate to our families is imperative. Among the potential consequences of proposed Rules 1.460(b) and 1.200(f)(5) to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure is that

litigators will be put in positions of having to choose between their profession or their families, unreasonably sacrificing one for the other. For smaller trial firms, such as ours, the proposed rules will essentially put our firm on a perpetual trial docket, ruining pre-planned family vacations and other family commitments. The result of these proposed rules is simply inequitable.

Dated May 26, 2022,

Respectfully submitted,

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/s/ Edgar Velazquez, Esquire
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on May 26, 2022, a copy of the foregoing was electronically filed via the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, with a copy provided by U.S. Mail to Chief Judge Robert Morris, Second District Court of Appeal, P.O. Box 327, Lakeland, Florida 33802, and by email to Tina White, 500 South Duval Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, whitet@flcourts.org.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I certify that this document was prepared in Arial, 14-point font, in compliance with Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.045.

/s/ Edgar Velazquez, Esquire
Edgar Velazquez, Esquire