

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

**IN RE: PETITION OF TENNESSEE BAR ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
APPROVAL OF CITATION SYSTEM FOR TENNESSEE APPELLATE  
DECISIONS**

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**No. M1997-00277-SC-OT-CV  
(Formerly No. 01S01-9701-OT-00004)**

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**ORDER**

On February 2, 1997, the Tennessee Bar Association filed a petition in this Court seeking approval of a "Citation System for Tennessee Appellate Decisions." Because the proposed new rule raised issues of important public policy, the Court entered an order on January 21, 1997, soliciting responses to the petition from the Bar and the public. The order requested that responses be filed in the Appellate Court Clerk's office in Nashville on or before June 30, 1997. The Court received a number of thoughtful and constructive responses from various practicing attorneys, legal educators, and bar associations.

Thereafter, this Court determined that oral argument would not be needed on the petition and referred the petition to its Civil and Appellate Rules Commission, Criminal Rules Commission, and its Commission on Technology for recommendations. The Commission on Technology held a public hearing on the matter in February of 1999.

Following a thorough review of the record in this matter, including the petition and the responses thereto, as well as the recommendations from its Commissions, this Court concludes that the petition should be denied. The Court invites the Bar Association to file another proposal for a universal citation system when it determines that there is a greater consensus among citation experts and national legal organizations regarding the components and form of a universal citation system.

Costs incident to this petition are taxed to the petitioner.

FOR THE COURT:

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Riley Anderson, Chief Justice