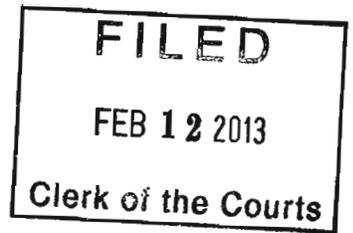


IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: PETITION FOR THE ADOPTION OF
AMENDED TENN. SUP. CT. RULE 31



No. M2012-02328-SC-RL1-RL - Filed: February 12, 2013

ORDER

On November 2, 2012, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission filed a petition asking the Court to amend Sections 11(b)(6) and 11(b)(12) of Rule 31, Rules of the Tennessee Supreme Court. The Court published the Commission's proposed amendments and solicited written comments from the bench, the bar, and the public. The deadline for submitting comments concerning the proposed amendments was Friday, January 25, 2013. No written comments were received.

The Court hereby amends Sections 11(b)(6) and 11(b)(12) of Rule 31, Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, to read as follows:

Rule 31, Section 11(b)(6):

Notwithstanding any other provision in this Rule, at any time while the Grievance Committee has jurisdiction, it or its designated chair may meet with the complainant and the mediator, jointly or separately, in an effort to resolve the matter. The resolution may include sanctions if agreed to by the mediator. If sanctions are accepted, all relevant documentation shall be forwarded to the ADRC Chair. These meetings may be in person, by video-conference or teleconference at the discretion of the Committee.

Rule 31, Section 11(b)(12):

The ADRC will then hear the complaint de novo, and without a presumption of correctness, sitting without those members who served on the Grievance Committee that initially heard the complaint. An appealing party shall submit a brief

describing the issues and matters for which the appealing party seeks a ruling and decision of the ADRC. This shall be submitted to the ADRC within 45 days after the request for review by the ADRC. The brief shall be served on all other parties. Other parties shall submit a responsive brief within 30 days after the receipt of the appealing party's brief. If the parties can agree to limit the evidence and issues to be presented for review, the ADRC may choose to accept those limitations. The full record of the subject disciplinary process, including the findings of the Grievance Committee, shall be made available to the ADRC during the review process.

The Clerk shall provide a copy of this order to LexisNexis and to Thomson Reuters. In addition, this order shall be posted on the Tennessee Supreme Court's website.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

PER CURIAM