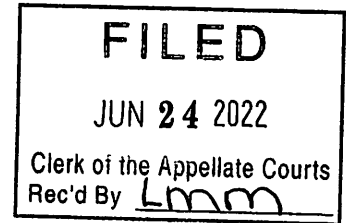


**TO:** Tennessee Supreme Court Justices

**RE:** ADM2022-00522



I write today to express my support for amending Section 5.01(c)(1) of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7 to allow part-time attorneys and legal professors to be actively practicing lawyers for purposes of comity. The practice of law is demanding, regardless of how many hours per week spent practicing, and an attorney who works part-time is no less competent or hardworking than one who works full-time. In fact, attorneys who work part-time often do so because they have other responsibilities, such as raising children or taking care of a sick or elderly relative. These individuals should not be penalized for this.

As it's currently written, Rule 7 severely disadvantages out-of-state lawyers who have chosen (or been forced) to work part-time for more than two years in the seven years prior to filing a comity application. This not only affects parents of young children; it also affects middle-aged attorneys who do not have the luxury of working full-time because they care for their elderly parents. Raising small children, caring for an ill family member, and supporting elderly parents often take more than two years, and depending on how long an individual has chosen to work part-time, Rule 7 would force him or her to wait up to five years to waive into Tennessee, despite actively practicing law part-time, or take the Tennessee bar exam (costing hundreds or thousands of dollars and weeks of studying), even though he or she has already passed a bar exam.

This antiquated requirement discourages qualified lawyers from waiving into the Tennessee bar. Many of these qualified lawyers are women, who work part-time to balance raising their children with supporting their families financially. In my life, seeing my mother work part-time and visiting her office after school instilled a sense of duty and hard work in me, and there is mounting evidence that children of working mothers, especially daughters, are more likely to have higher paying, supervisory jobs later in life because of seeing their mothers working.

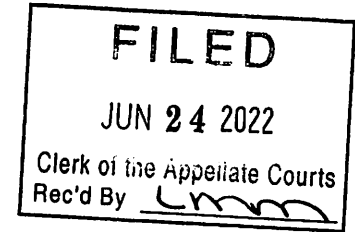
At the same time, however, women (and all parents) should have the flexibility to work part-time if the necessities of life dictate and if they so choose. Rule 7 prevents this kind of flexibility and drives these qualified lawyers to other states with less stringent requirements. For these reasons, the Tennessee Supreme Court should amend this rule to allow part-time attorneys and legal professors to be actively practicing lawyers for purposes of comity.

Sincerely,

Kymerly S. Kester

**TO:** Tennessee Supreme Court Justices

**RE:** ADM2022-00522



I strongly support amending Section 5.01(c)(1) of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7 to allow part-time attorneys and legal professors to be actively practicing lawyers for purposes of comity. The practice of law is demanding, regardless of how many hours per week spent practicing, and an attorney who works part-time is no less competent or hardworking than one who works full-time. Of course, attorneys who work part-time often do so because they have other responsibilities, such as raising children or taking care of a sick or elderly relative. These individuals should not be penalized for this.

As it's currently written, Rule 7 severely disadvantages out-of-state lawyers who have chosen (or been forced) to work part-time for more than two years in the seven years prior to filing a comity application. This not only affects parents of young children; it also affects middle-aged attorneys who do not have the luxury of working full-time because they care for their elderly parents. Rule 7 would force such attorneys to choose between waiting up to five years to waive into Tennessee, despite actively practicing law part-time, or take the Tennessee bar exam, a costly and time-consuming hurdle. This antiquated requirement discourages qualified lawyers from waiving into the Tennessee bar. Many of these qualified lawyers are women, who work part-time to balance raising their children with supporting their families financially.

I will share that, when I was a junior associate, part-time positions, while available, were not a secure path to partnership. This led to many females (especially with families) burning out early and leaving the legal market, which obviously deprives our market of immense talent and perspective. Gladly, part-time/flex positions are becoming more commonplace, and firms are getting smart and structuring part-time schedules in a way that recognizes and rewards the value part-time attorneys bring to the table. Let's not hamper this trend by throwing up a roadblock to attorneys who have taken advantage of this tool.

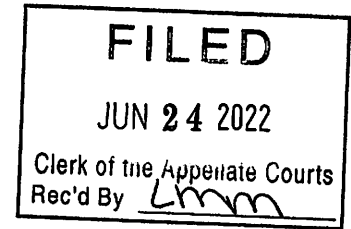
All attorneys should have the flexibility to work part-time if the necessities of life dictate and if they so choose. Rule 7 prevents this kind of flexibility and drives these qualified lawyers to other states with less stringent requirements. For these reasons, the Tennessee Supreme Court should amend this rule to allow part-time attorneys and legal professors to be actively practicing lawyers for purposes of comity.

Sincerely,

Sarah K. Laird

**TO:** Tennessee Supreme Court Justices

**RE:** ADM2022-00522



I write today to express my support for amending Section 5.01(c)(1) of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7 to allow part-time attorneys and legal professors to be actively practicing lawyers for purposes of comity. The practice of law is demanding, regardless of how many hours per week spent practicing, and an attorney who works part-time is no less competent or hardworking than one who works full-time. In fact, attorneys who work part-time often do so because they have other responsibilities, such as raising children or taking care of a sick or elderly relative. These individuals should not be penalized for this.

As it's currently written, Rule 7 severely disadvantages out-of-state lawyers who have chosen (or been forced) to work part-time for more than two years in the seven years prior to filing a comity application. This not only affects parents of young children; it also affects middle-aged attorneys who do not have the luxury of working full-time because they care for their elderly parents. Raising small children, caring for an ill family member, and supporting elderly parents often take more than two years, and depending on how long an individual has chosen to work part-time, Rule 7 would force him or her to wait up to five years to waive into Tennessee, despite actively practicing law part-time, or take the Tennessee bar exam (costing hundreds or thousands of dollars and weeks of studying), even though he or she has already passed a bar exam.

This antiquated requirement discourages qualified lawyers from waiving into the Tennessee bar. Many of these qualified lawyers are women, who work part-time to balance raising their children with supporting their families financially.

I strongly believe that women (and all parents) should have the flexibility to work part-time if the necessities of life dictate and if they so choose. Rule 7 prevents this kind of flexibility and drives these qualified lawyers to other states with less stringent requirements. For these reasons, the Tennessee Supreme Court should amend this rule to allow part-time attorneys and legal professors to be actively practicing lawyers for purposes of comity.

Sincerely,

*Brittany S. Macon*

Brittany S. Macon

**appellatecourtclerk - Comment for Rule 7, Section 5.01(c) ADM2022-00522**

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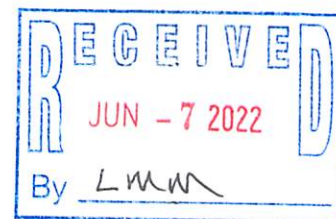
**From:** Heather Scott <heather.scott@heatherscottlaw.com>  
**To:** "appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov" <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>  
**Date:** 6/7/2022 3:01 PM  
**Subject:** Comment for Rule 7, Section 5.01(c) ADM2022-00522

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The Supreme Court should adopt the proposed amendment by the Network of Enlightened Women to Rule 7, Section 5.01(c), Rules of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Regards,

Heather Scott  
Attorney  
102 Richland Dr.  
Shelbyville, TN 37160  
615-604-0996  
heather.scott@heatherscottlaw.com



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**appellatecourtclerk - Docket No. ADM2022-00522**

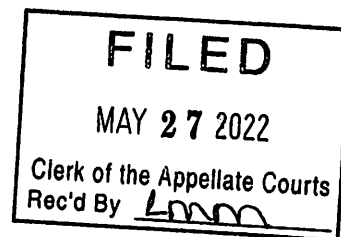
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**From:** Van Bunch <vbunch@BFFB.com>  
**To:** "appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov" <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>  
**Date:** 5/27/2022 8:50 AM  
**Subject:** Docket No. ADM2022-00522

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As an attorney admitted by comity in TN, by examination in AZ and later in WV (which at the time did not permit comity admission), I wholeheartedly endorse the proposed amendment.

Van Bunch  
Bonnett, Fairbourn, Friedman & Balint, P.C.  
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AZ 009630  
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**FILED**  
MAY 26 2022  
Clerk of the Appellate Courts  
Rec'd By Lmm

ADM2022-00522

**From:** Edgar Rothschild <edgarrothschild@gmail.com>  
**To:** <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>  
**Date:** 5/26/2022 5:58 PM  
**Subject:** Comments on proposed change in comity requirements

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am an inactive, retired attorney but still a member of the TBA. I plan on staying retired, so please take my comments as a disinterested person. With many people practicing law part-time and wanting to take cases across state borders, it makes sense to me that the current rule requiring a lawyer to maintain a full-time practice is too restrictive and the rule should be amended, and comity provided to those with a part-time practice as well.

Sincerely,

Edgar Rothschild  
BPR# 04750

Sent from my iPhone

Edgar Rothschild  
479 Broadwell Dr  
Nashville, TN 37220  
(615) 406-9398  
edgarrothschild@gmail.com