

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA**

**IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE  
FLORIDA RULE OF JUDICIAL  
ADMINISTRATION 2.520**

**CASE NO.: 14-**

**OUT-OF-CYCLE REPORT OF THE RULES OF JUDICIAL  
ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

The Honorable Jon B. Morgan, Chair, Rules of Judicial Administration Committee (“RJA”), and John F. Harkness, Jr., Executive Director, The Florida Bar, file this out-of-cycle report under Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.140. All rule and form amendments have been approved by the full Committee and, as required by Rule 2.140(b)(2), reviewed by The Florida Bar Board of Governors. The RJA voted 36-1 in favor of these amendments and to submit them out-of-cycle. The Board of Governors voted 39-0 in favor of these amendments.

In order to submit these proposals to the court as soon as possible, the proposed amendments were not published for comment.

The following appendices are attached:

- Appendix A: Rule in legislative format
- Appendix B: Rule in 2-column format

At its June 2013 meeting, the Committee considered proposed format requirements for paper documents filed primarily by pro se litigants. These requirements are deemed necessary because of the variety of nonconforming documents that have been filed in the past and the difficulty of scanning nonconforming documents. Examples of nonconforming documents include: documents filed on colored paper, illegible documents, two sided documents, and documents with writing in the margins.

The Committee subsequently considered and adopted a page numbering requirement. The Committee also considered a stapling requirement, but based on the clerks’ preferences, the stapling requirement was rejected. The need to reference the margin requirements for date and time stamps was also brought the Committee’s attention. The subject matters addressed by the proposed

amendments to rule 2.520 include both format requirements for filed documents and the use of margins by the clerks.

Historically, there has been expressed interest in having the amendments to this rule expedited for out-of-cycle consideration by the Court. The subject matters amended are not controversial, are of great concern to the clerks, and involve electronic filing issues that have been given expedited treatment in the past. Subsequent to the Committee approving the amendments in final form in January, questions arose among clerks and some members of the Florida Courts Technology Commission regarding the status of the rule amendments and why the rule amendments had not yet been presented to the Court for consideration. In response, RJA is proposing that the amendments to Rule 2.520 be considered on an out-of-cycle basis.

Respectfully submitted on April 1, 2014.

/s/ Jon. B. Morgan

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The Honorable Jon B. Morgan  
Chair  
Rules of Judicial Administration  
Committee  
2 Courthouse Sq., Rm. 6420  
Kissimmee, FL 34741-5487  
407/343-2516  
Florida Bar No. 242020  
ctjujm2@ocnjcc.org

/s/ John F. Harkness, Jr.

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John F. Harkness, Jr.  
Executive Director  
The Florida Bar  
  
651 East Jefferson Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300  
850/561-5600  
Florida Bar No. 123390  
jharkness@flabar.org

**CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE**

I certify that this rule was read against *West's Florida Rules of Court – State* (2013 Revised Edition).

I certify that this report was prepared in compliance with the font requirements of *Fla. R. App. P. 9.210(a)(2)*.

/s/ Heather S. Telfer

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Heather S. Telfer, Staff Liaison  
Rules of Judicial Administration  
Committee

The Florida Bar

651 East Jefferson Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300

Florida Bar No. 139149

htelfer@flabar.org