

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

12/03/2025

Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

**IN RE: PETITION TO AMEND TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT RULE 9,
SECTION 10.1**

No. ADM2025-01205

ORDER

On August 11, 2025, the Tennessee Bar Association (“TBA”) filed a petition asking this Court to amend Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, section 10.1 to authorize and require the Tennessee Board of Professional Responsibility (“Board”) to provide, upon the request of any bar association located in Tennessee, contact information about an attorney, consisting of the attorney’s phone number, email address, physical address, date of birth, demographic information, firm name, date of licensure in Tennessee, and status of license.

On August 14, 2025, this Court published the TBA’s petition for public comment. The comment period expired October 13, 2025. Seven comments were filed, three from bar associations, one from the Board, and three from lawyers. In general, the bar associations support the amendment but suggest revisions. The Board does not support the amendment and suggests that, if it is adopted, lawyers be given an opportunity to opt out of the requirement. The attorneys oppose the amendment.

Upon due consideration of the TBA’s petition and the comments, the Court declines to adopt the proposed amendments. The proposed amendments would undermine revisions that became effective January 1, 2025, which were adopted to protect the confidential information of attorneys and judges in the wake of violent assaults in other jurisdictions on judges, lawyers, and their family members at their homes. The TBA worked with the Board to draft the January 1, 2025 amendments. While the TBA’s current petition would undoubtedly make the gathering of attorney contact information more convenient and inexpensive for bar associations, these benefits are substantially outweighed by the safety and privacy interests of judges and lawyers.

Accordingly, the TBA’s petition is DENIED. Costs associated with this petition are taxed to the TBA.

It is so ORDERED.

PER CURIAM