IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE AT NASHVILLE

050 000

IN RE: AMENDMENT TO RULE 31, SECTION 2(b), RULES OF THE TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT

ORDER

Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 31 established the Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission ("ADR Commission") and governs the alternative dispute resolution proceedings specified in the rule. The ADR Commission proposes amending Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 31, § 2(b) (definition of "Baccalaureate degree" and "graduate degree") as follows (new language indicated by underscoring):

(b) "Baccalaureate degree" and "graduate degree" are only those degrees awarded by an institution of higher education accredited by an agency recognized by the Council for Higher Educations (CHEA) and approved or listed by the United States Department of Education as a recognized accrediting agency. <u>A law degree from an educational institution recognized by the Tennessee Board of Law Examiners for the purpose of allowing its graduates to be eligible to take the Tennessee bar examination shall be deemed a graduate degree for purposes of this rule.</u>

The Court hereby publishes the proposed amendment for public comment and solicits written comments from judges, lawyers, bar organizations, members of the public, and any other interested parties. The deadline for submitting written comments is Monday, March 2, 2009. Written comments should be addressed to:

Michael W. Catalano, Clerk 100 Supreme Court Building 401 Seventh Avenue North Nashville, TN 37219-1407

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

FOR THE COURT:

uce the bolde JANICE M. HOLDER, CHIEF JUSTICE