

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

**In Re: PROPOSED ADOPTION OF SUPREME COURT RULE 36 –
ESTABLISHING STANDARD PAPER SIZE FOR TENNESSEE STATE
COURTS**

ORDER

Filed January 19, 2001

The Court, pursuant to its supervisory role over the judicial system of this State, proposes to adopt a new Supreme Court Rule establishing a standard paper size for papers filed in all state courts pursuant to the recommendations of the Tennessee Supreme Court Advisory Commission on Technology. The new proposed Rule 36 is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

In the interest of providing prompt and fair consideration of this important public policy issue, the Court solicits written responses from the bench, the bar, the court clerks, and the public. Comments should be addressed to:

Cecil V. Crowson, Clerk
Tennessee Supreme Court
100 Supreme Court Building
401 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37219-1407

The deadline for written comments is July 31, 2001.

The Clerk is directed to provide a copy of this order to the media, the president of the Tennessee Judicial Conference, the Tennessee Trial Judges Association, the Tennessee General Sessions Judges Conference, the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the Tennessee Clerks of Court, and the bar associations of this State.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

FOR THE COURT:

RILEY ANDERSON, CHIEF JUSTICE

Rule 36 - Standard Paper Size for Tennessee State Courts.

(a) All pleadings, motions, and other papers presented for filing with the clerk or intended for the use of the court shall be upon letter size (8½ X 11 inches) opaque, unglazed white paper, and

(1) shall be clearly and legibly handwritten or shall be typewritten or printed in black ink using type not smaller than 12 points in type face essentially equivalent to Times New Roman or Helvetica;

(2) shall be handwritten or printed on one side of the paper only and the lines on each page shall be at least 1½ spaced except for descriptions of real property, quotations, and footnotes which may be single spaced and indented; and

(3) shall, if consisting of more than one page, have each consecutive page numbered at the bottom center of the page.

(b) Any exhibit or attachment filed with a pleading, motion, or other paper may be submitted in its original size; however, parties are encouraged to reduce or enlarge exhibits or attachments to letter size (8½ X 11 inches) paper if doing so does not impair legibility or clarity.

(c) No pleading, motion, or other paper shall be refused for filing because it does not comply with this rule. However, the clerk shall require that a noncomplying pleading, motion, or other paper be resubmitted in compliance with this rule. The filing party shall submit the substituted pleading, motion, or paper within fifteen (15) days after its original filing and shall certify that the substituted pleading, motion, or paper is identical in content to the pleading, motion, or paper originally filed.

(d) This rule shall become effective on January 1, 2003 and shall apply to all state courts, including, without limitation: general sessions court, juvenile court, probate court, circuit court, chancery court, criminal court and the respective appellate courts. Prior to that date, pleadings, motions, and other papers presented for filing with the clerk or intended for the use of the court may be filed either on letter size (8½ X 11 inches) or legal size (8½ X 14 inches) paper.