

Note: This Charge and Designation replaces the Charge and Designation dated August 19, 2009.



**SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON
RULES GOVERNING AN ELECTRONIC CASE FILE, ELECTRONIC FILING AND VIDEO
OR AUDIO PROCEEDINGS**

Charge and Designation

A. Charge

A special Advisory Committee on Rules Governing an Electronic Case File, Electronic Filing and Video or Audio Proceedings of thirteen members is established. The Committee shall develop and propose rules governing procedures for electronic filing of proceedings and court records in all types of cases and in all courts and for the use of the electronic case file. The rules shall cover among other matters: designation of the official case file and court records, whether electronic filing is mandatory, procedures for records and items that cannot be electronically filed, requirements for electronic signatures, procedures for paying court fees electronically, requirements for electronic filing including permissible format and content of electronically filed documents, notice and service, retention of electronic documents and procedures for redaction.

In addition, the committee shall develop and propose comprehensive rules, and amendments to existing rules or administrative orders, governing use of video and audio conferencing technology in all courts. These rules shall address the situations in which parties or counsel may appear by video or audio transmission or in which testimony may be taken by video or audio transmission.

The Committee shall approve proposed rules on the electronic case file and electronic filing by May 1, 2010. The Committee shall approve proposed rules on video and audio proceedings by October 1, 2010. Pursuant to Administrative Order No. 11, the Committee will be a proponent of rulemaking and shall give notice and opportunity to comment pursuant to that administrative order. The Committee shall specifically seek comments from the Advisory Committees on the Rules of Civil Procedure, of Criminal Procedure, of Probate Procedure and of Family Proceedings.

The Court Administrator shall supply the Committee with a Reporter and provide necessary administrative assistance from its staff

B. Designation

The Supreme Court hereby appoints to the Committee on Rules Governing an Electronic Case File and Electronic Filing the following persons:

- Hon. John Dooley, Chair, Supreme Court Justice
- Hon. Amy Davenport, Administrative Judge
- Hon. Matthew Katz, Trial Court Judge
- Hon. Robert Bent, Trial Court Judge
- Hon. Thomas Durkin, Environmental Court Judge
- Hon. Eleanor Smith, Probate Court Judge

Eric Avildsen, Esq., Civil Rules Committee
Bonnie Barnes, Esq., Criminal Rules Committee
John C. Newman, Esq., Probate Rules Committee
Jody A. Racht, Esq., Family Rules Committee
Susan J. Steckel, Esq., Attorney
T. J. Donovan, Esq., State's Attorney
Margaret M. Jansch, Esq., Public Defender
Teri Corsones, Esq., Superior Court Clerk


C. Expenses

In the performance of their duties, members who are state employees shall be reimbursed the normal state employees expenses. Members of the Committee who are not state employees shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses. The Court Administrator's Office shall pay from the judicial appropriation all reasonable expenses of the Committee when claims are submitted on proper vouchers approved by the Court Administrator or his designee.

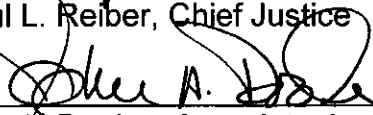
D. Duration of Charge and Designation

This Charge and Designation replaces the Charge and Designation dated August 9, 2009. This Charge and Designation shall be effective immediately and shall cease when the Supreme Court accepts or rejects its work product.

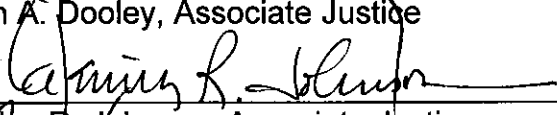
Dated in Chambers at Montpelier, Vermont this 24th day of February, 2010.



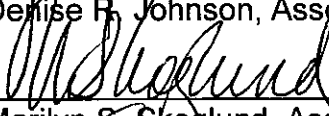
Paul L. Reiber, Chief Justice



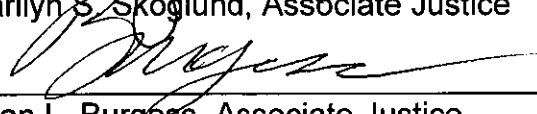
John A. Dooley, Associate Justice



Denise F. Johnson, Associate Justice



Marilyn S. Skoglund, Associate Justice



Brian L. Burgess, Associate Justice