

**SUPREME COURT OF VERMONT
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TO: Members of the Vermont Bar
FROM: Robert Greemore, Acting Court Administrator
RE: Promulgated and Proposed Rule Amendments
DATE: June 22, 2009

For your information, I enclose the following:

I. RULE AMENDMENTS RECENTLY PROMULGATED BY THE VERMONT SUPREME COURT

a. V.R.A.P 3(d), 8(c)(2),10(b)(7), 26(b), 26(d), and A.O. 4, § 4(c)(1)

The Court promulgated emergency amendments to the Vermont Rules of Appellate Procedure and A.O. 4 which incorporate rule changes made necessary by the enactment of Act No. 185 of 2007 (Adj. Sess.).

These emergency amendments, promulgated on June 17, 2009, effective immediately, can be found on our website at:

http://www.vermontjudiciary.org/LC/Statutes%20and%20Rules/PROMULGATEDEMERGENCYvrap3_d_8_c_2_10_b_7_26_b_d_ao4_c_1_-2.pdf

b. Amendments to the Rules of Professional Conduct

These amendments to the Vermont Rules of Professional Conduct incorporate comprehensive and significant changes to the American Bar Association's Model Rules of Professional Conduct that were adopted by the ABA House of Delegates in 2001-2003.

These amendments, promulgated on June 17, 2009, will become effective on September 1, 2009.

These amendments can be found on our website at:

<http://www.vermontjudiciary.org/LC/Statutes%20and%20Rules/PROMULGATED-JUN1709-VRPC.pdf>

II. REMINDER TO REDACT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

The Supreme Court is concerned with protecting the privacy of social security numbers of persons involved in court proceedings.

In 2001, the Court promulgated procedural rules requiring attorneys and self-represented litigants to redact the social security number from any paper before filing it with the trial court unless the SSN was specifically requested by the trial court. See V.R.C.P. 5(g); V.R.Cr.P. 49(c).

The Supreme Court has asked the Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure to propose a procedural rule that social security numbers be redacted from all papers filed with the Supreme Court prior to filing.

Pending promulgation of such a rule, the Court at this time requests that the social security number be redacted from any paper filed with the Supreme Court, and in particular the Court requests that the SSN be redacted from all papers in the printed case, even if the SSN was requested by the trial court and was included on the paper filed with the trial court.

III. OTHER REMINDERS

Attorneys are reminded of their obligation under A.O. 41 to keep this office informed of their current mailing and email addresses.

You may send changes to JUD-AttyLicensing@state.vt.us. Your cooperation is very much appreciated.