

**SUPREME COURT OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR**

LEE SUSKIN, ESQ.
Court Administrator
lee.suskin@state.vt.us

Mailing Address:
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609-0701

Telephone: (802) 828-3278
FAX: (802) 828-3457
TDD: (802) 828-3234

ROBERT GREEMORE
Director - Administrative Services
bob.greemore@state.vt.us

PATRICIA GABEL, Esq.
Director - Court Improvement & Innovation
patricia.gabel@state.vt.us

ROBERT YERGEAU
Director - Research & Info. Services
robert.yergeau@state.vt.us

www.vermontjudiciary.org

TO: Members of the Vermont Bar

FROM: Lee Suskin, Court Administrator

RE: Promulgated & Proposed Rule Amendments

DATE: August 7, 2008

For your information, I enclose the following:

I. EMERGENCY RULE AMENDMENTS RECENTLY PROMULGATED BY THE VERMONT SUPREME COURT

a. Emergency Amendments to Rule 53.1(f) of the Vermont Rules of Criminal Procedure, and Rule 79.3(f) of the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure

These emergency amendments promulgated on July 21, 2008, and effective immediately, were made to correct an inadvertent error in the captions of the June 17, 2008 emergency promulgation orders.

http://www.vermontjudiciary.org/rules/Promulgated/vrcp79_vrcrp53_correctcaptionemergencyPROMULGATED.pdf

b. Emergency Amendment to Rule 16(e) of the Vermont Rules of Criminal Procedure

This emergency amendment promulgated on July 21, 2008, and effective immediately, was made to conform with an amendment to 23 V.S.A. § 1203(k). See 2007, No. 153, (adj. Sess.), § 2a.

http://www.vermontjudiciary.org/rules/Promulgated/vrcrp16_e_emergencyPROMULGATED.pdf

II. PROPOSED RULE AMENDMENTS (NOTE: THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS ARE PROPOSED BY THE RULES COMMITTEES AND HAVE NOT BEEN REVIEWED BY THE SUPREME COURT.)

a. Proposed Amendment to § 6(i)(1) of the Rules for Admission to the Bar of the

Vermont Supreme Court

This proposed amendment waives the three month law office study admission requirement for individuals who are certified as having successfully completed the two-year General Practice Program offered at the Vermont Law School.

Comments on this proposed amendment should be sent to the Chair of the Board of Bar Examiners by **October 8, 2008**. The chair can be reached either by U.S. postal or email at the following address(es):

Margaret O'Donnell, Esq., Chair
Board of Bar Examiners
2418 Airport Road, Suite 2
Barre, VT 05641
JUD-AttyLicensing@state.vt.us

This proposed rule amendment can be found on our website at the following address:

http://www.vermontjudiciary.org/rules/proposed/proposedMCLERule6_i_1_2_.pdf

b. Proposed Amendment to §§ 7 and 9 of Administrative Order No. 41 Licensing of Attorneys

The proposed amendment to § 7 would include certification that an attorney is in good standing with respect to any unpaid judgment issued by the judicial bureau or district court for fines or penalties for a violation or a criminal offense. This proposed amendment would conform with the addition of 4 V.S.A. § 1110. See 2007, No. 51, § 4.

The proposed amendment would add § 9.A. in order to provide that an attorney is in good standing with respect to any unpaid judgment issued by the judicial bureau or district court for fines or penalties for a violation or criminal offense if 60 days or fewer have elapsed since the date a judgment was issued or the attorney is in compliance with a repayment plan approved by the judiciary. This proposed amendment would conform with the addition of 4 V.S.A. § 1110. See 2007, No. 51, § 4.

Comments on these proposed amendments should be sent to the Chair of the Board of Bar Examiners by **October 8, 2008**. The chair can be reached either by U.S. postal or email at the following address(es):

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Board of Bar Examiners
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This proposed rule amendment can be found on our website at the following address:

<http://www.vermontjudiciary.org/rules/proposed/proposedAO41sec7and9.pdf>

III. 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.

IV. 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.