

**COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE
OF THE
JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES**

August 8, 2008

TO THE BENCH, BAR, AND PUBLIC:

Proposed Rules and Forms Amendments

The Judicial Conference Advisory Committees on the Appellate, Bankruptcy, Civil, Criminal, and Evidence Rules have proposed amendments to federal rules and requested that the proposals be circulated to the bench, bar, and public for comment. The proposed amendments to the federal rules, with reports from each Advisory Committee, are posted on the Judiciary's Federal Rulemaking web site at www.uscourts.gov/rules.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Please provide any comments and suggestions on the proposed amendments, whether favorable, adverse, or otherwise, as soon as possible. **The comment deadline is February 17, 2009.** Comments, suggestions, or other correspondence may be submitted electronically to Rules_Comments@ao.uscourts.gov or in hard copy to the Secretary of the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, Washington, D.C. 20544. The Advisory Committees will review all timely comments. All comments are made part of the official record and are available to the public.

All the Advisory Committees welcome comment on all aspects of each proposal. In its report, the Advisory Committee on the Civil Rules has also invited comment on specific aspects of the proposed amendments to Civil Rules 26 and 56.

The Advisory Committees on the Appellate, Bankruptcy, Civil, Criminal, and Evidence Rules will hold public hearings on the proposed amendments on the following dates:

- Appellate Rules in Washington, D.C., on January 30, 2009, and in New Orleans, Louisiana, on February 11, 2009;
- Bankruptcy Rules in New York, New York, on January 23, 2009, and in San Francisco, California, on February 6, 2009;
- Civil Rules in Washington, D.C., on November 17, 2008, in San Antonio, Texas, on January 14, 2009, and in San Francisco, California, on February 2, 2009;
- Criminal Rules in Los Angeles, California, on January 16, 2009, and in Dallas, Texas, on February 9, 2009; and
- Evidence Rules in San Antonio, Texas, on January 13, 2009, and in Atlanta, Georgia, on January 26, 2009.

Memorandum to Bench, Bar, and Public
August 8, 2008
Page 2

If you wish to testify, you must contact the Committee Secretary at the above address **at least 30 days before the hearing.**

After the public comment period, the Advisory Committees will decide whether to submit the proposed amendments to the Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. At present, the Standing Committee has not approved these proposed amendments, except to authorize their publication for comment. The proposed amendments have not been submitted to nor considered by the Judicial Conference or the Supreme Court.

Lee H. Rosenthal
Chair

Peter G. McCabe
Secretary