

**AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF SUPERINTENDENCE FOR THE COURTS OF
OHIO, THE SUPREME COURT RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
JUDICIARY OF OHIO, AND THE OHIO CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

The following amendments to the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio, the Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Judiciary of Ohio, and the Ohio Code of Judicial Conduct were adopted by the Supreme Court of Ohio. The history of these amendments is as follows:

August 11, 2015	Final adoption by conference
August 11, 2015	Effective date of amendments

RULES OF SUPERINTENDENCE FOR THE COURTS OF OHIO

RULE 41. Conflict of Trial Court Assignment Dates, Continuances and Engaged Counsel.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(B) Conflict of Trial Date Assignments

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(2) Except as provided in division (B)(3) of this rule, a continuance shall be granted, upon request, under either of the following circumstances:

(a) A party, counsel, or witness under subpoena is scheduled to appear on the same date at a hearing before the Board of Professional Conduct of the Supreme Court as a member of the Board, as a party, as counsel for a party, or as a witness under subpoena for the hearing;

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

RULE 99. Effective Date.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(PPP) The amendment to Sup.R. 41, adopted by the Supreme Court on August 11, 2015, shall take effect on August 11, 2015.

**SUPREME COURT RULES FOR THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE JUDICIARY OF OHIO**

RULE II. Disciplinary Procedure.

Section 1. Board of Professional Conduct of the Supreme Court.

There is created under Rule V of the Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio a Board of Professional Conduct of the Supreme Court. The Board shall receive evidence, preserve the record, make findings, and submit recommendations to the Supreme Court as follows:

(A) Concerning complaints of misconduct that are alleged to have been committed by a justice, judge, or candidate for judicial office;

(B) Concerning allegations that a justice or judge is unable to discharge the duties of judicial office by virtue of a mental or physical disability;

(C) Upon reference by the Supreme Court of conduct by a justice, judge, or candidate for judicial office affecting any proceeding under these rules or the Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio, where the acts allegedly constitute a contempt of the Supreme Court or a breach of these rules but did not take place in the presence of the Supreme Court or a member of the Supreme Court, whether by willful disobedience of any order or judgment of the Supreme Court or an order or subpoena issued by the Board of Professional Conduct, by interference with any officer of the Supreme Court in the prosecution of any duty, or otherwise. Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting or affecting the plenary power of the Supreme Court to impose punishment with reference either to contempts or breaches of these rules committed in its presence or the plenary power of any other court with reference to contempts committed in its presence.

Section 2. Authority and Duty of Disciplinary Counsel and Certified Grievance Committees.

(A) Except as provided in Gov. Bar R. V and Section 5 of this rule, a grievance alleging misconduct of a judge or candidate for judicial office, or alleging that a judge is unable to discharge the duties of judicial office by virtue of a mental or physical disability, shall be filed with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel or with a grievance committee certified pursuant to Gov. Bar R. V. The Office of Disciplinary Counsel and certified grievance committees shall have authority to investigate grievances, file formal complaints with the Board, and prosecute formal complaints filed with the Board.

(B) Except as provided in Section 5 and 6 of this rule, a grievance alleging misconduct of the Chief Justice or a justice of the Supreme Court, or alleging that the Chief Justice or a justice of the Supreme Court is unable to discharge the duties of judicial office by virtue of a mental or physical disability, shall be filed with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. The Office of Disciplinary Counsel shall review the grievance to determine whether an ethical

violation is alleged. If the grievance alleges an ethical violation, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel promptly shall forward the grievance to the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, elected pursuant to section 2501.03 of the Revised Code, for further proceedings in accordance with Section 4 of this rule. A grievance alleging misconduct by a former Chief Justice or justice of the Supreme Court shall proceed pursuant to Gov. Bar R. V or division (A) of this section.

Section 3. Application of Rule.

A grievance or complaint involving alleged misconduct by a justice, judge, or judicial candidate; all proceedings for the discipline of a justice, judge, or judicial candidate; and all proceedings with regard to the alleged inability of a justice or judge to discharge the duties of judicial office by virtue of a mental or physical disability shall be brought, conducted, and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of this rule and Gov. Bar R. V. Sections 4 and 6 of this rule contain provisions for adjudicating grievances and complaints against a justice of or candidate for the Supreme Court. Section 5 of this rule contains provisions for adjudicating campaign grievances and complaints against a candidate for a trial court or court of appeals.

Section 4. Grievances Against Supreme Court Justices.

(A) Initial review.

(1) Upon receipt of a grievance from the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals shall select, by lot, a three-member review panel from among the judges designated pursuant to division (A)(3) of this section. The review panel shall contact the justice named in the grievance for a written response within fourteen days to the allegations contained in the grievance. Upon request, the review panel may grant a reasonable extension of time for the justice to provide a response.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(C) Appointment of hearing panel; proceedings on the formal complaint.

(1) Upon receipt of a formal complaint filed by the special disciplinary counsel, the Chief Judge shall do both of the following:

(a) Appoint a hearing panel of three fulltime trial court judges selected, by lot, from the list of judges developed and maintained pursuant to division (C)(5) of this section. The judges chosen shall be from separate appellate districts and shall not be from the district in which the respondent resides. The Chief Judge shall designate one of the judges to serve as the chair of the hearing panel.

(b) Immediately forward the formal complaint to the director of the Board of Professional Conduct, who shall send a copy of the formal complaint by certified mail to the respondent. The complaint shall be accompanied by a notice requiring the respondent to file, within twenty days after the mailing of the complaint, six copies of the respondent's answer and

serve copies of the answer on special disciplinary counsel and the Chief Judge. For good cause shown, the Chief Judge may grant an extension of time to file the answer.

(2) With reasonable notice to the parties, the hearing panel shall hold a hearing on the complaint. The hearing panel chair may grant requests for continuances for good cause shown. All hearings shall be recorded by a court reporter and a transcript included in the record of the proceedings.

(3) If at the end of the evidence presented by the relator, a unanimous hearing panel finds that the evidence is insufficient to support a charge or count of misconduct or a finding of disability, the panel may order the complaint or count be dismissed. If at the end of all evidence, a majority of the hearing panel finds that the evidence is insufficient to support a charge or count of misconduct, the panel may order the complaint or count be dismissed. The hearing panel chair shall give written notice of the action taken to the director who shall notify the Chief Judge, relator, and respondent. There shall be no appeal from an order dismissing the complaint or count of misconduct.

(4) If a majority of the hearing panel determines, by clear and convincing evidence, that the respondent is guilty of misconduct and a disciplinary sanction is merited or that the respondent has a mental or physical disability that makes the respondent unable to discharge the duties of office, the hearing panel shall file a certified report of the proceedings, its findings of fact, conclusions of law and recommended sanction with the director. The report shall include the transcript of testimony taken and an itemized statement of the actual and necessary expenses incurred in connection with the proceedings. The director shall send a copy of the hearing panel's report and recommendations to the Chief Judge and serve a copy of the report and recommendations, by certified mail, on the relator and respondent. At the conclusion of all proceedings before the hearing panel, the director shall file the record of such proceedings with the Clerk of the Supreme Court as provided in division (E)(1) of this section.

(5) In January each year, the administrative judge of each appellate district shall designate two fulltime trial judges from within the appellate district to be eligible to serve on a hearing panel appointed pursuant to division (C)(1)(a) of this section. In selecting the trial judges who shall be eligible for appointment to hearing panels, the administrative judge shall consider legal and judicial experience, gender, race, ethnicity, and other relevant factors. Before designating a judge as eligible for selection to serve on a hearing panel, the administrative judge shall contact the judge to determine the judge's availability for potential service. The administrative judge shall advise the Chief Judge, in writing, of the designations.

(D) *Appointment of adjudicatory panel; proceedings before the panel.*

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(4) If objections are filed, the adjudicatory panel shall promptly schedule oral argument on objections. After the hearing on objections, or if no objections are filed, the adjudicatory panel shall issue an order as it finds proper. Unless otherwise ordered, any

disciplinary order or order related to the respondent's mental or physical disability shall be effective on the date the order is announced. The order may provide for reimbursement to the Attorney Services Fund of costs and expenses incurred by special disciplinary counsel, the panels appointed pursuant to this section, or the director.

(5) The Clerk shall mail certified copies of the order to the parties. The Supreme Court Reporter shall publish the disciplinary order in the *Ohio Official Reports*.

(E) *Miscellaneous provisions.*

(1) Upon the filing of a formal complaint, the director of the Board of Professional Conduct shall serve as clerk for the Chief Judge and the hearing panel. The relator and respondent shall file all pleadings, motions, documents, and other material with the director, who shall transmit the documents and materials to the Chief Judge and the appropriate panel. The Chief Judge and panels shall transmit all orders, opinions, and other materials to the director for service on or distribution to the parties. The director shall maintain a complete record of the proceedings and, upon conclusion of the proceedings before the hearing panel, certify the record, including exhibits, to the Clerk of the Supreme Court who shall maintain the certified record. The Clerk shall serve as clerk for any adjudicatory panel appointed pursuant to division (D) of this section, and all proceedings before the adjudicatory panel shall be conducted as provided in this section and the Rules of Practice of the Supreme Court of Ohio. Upon request, the director and Clerk shall assist the Chief Judge, hearing panel, and adjudicatory panel with ministerial matters such as scheduling a location for hearings and securing a court reporter.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

Section 5. Campaign Conduct; Enforcement and Sanctions.

Notwithstanding Section 2 of this rule, a grievance that alleges a violation by a judicial candidate of Canon 4 of the Code of Judicial Conduct during the course of a campaign for judicial office shall be brought, conducted, and disposed of in accordance with this rule and Gov. Bar R. V, as modified by this section. All other grievances shall be brought, conducted, and disposed of in accordance with this rule and Gov. Bar R. V.

(A) *Filing of grievance; preliminary review; referral.*

(1) A grievance that alleges a violation by a judicial candidate of Canon 4 of the Code of Judicial Conduct during the course of a campaign for judicial office shall be filed with the director of the Board of Professional Conduct. Within two days of receiving the grievance, the director shall conduct a preliminary review. If the director is unable to conduct the preliminary review because of a conflict of interest, the director immediately shall forward the grievance to the chair of the Board who shall conduct the preliminary review. If the chair has a conflict of interest or is unavailable, the director immediately shall forward the grievance to the vice-chair of the Board who shall conduct the preliminary review.

(2) If a judicial candidate files a grievance alleging a violation by his or her opponent of Canon 4 of the Code of Judicial Conduct and the judicial candidate and his or her opponent have signed an agreement with a voluntarily organized judicial election monitoring committee that provides for expedited consideration of alleged violations of Canon 4 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, the director may refer the grievance to the monitoring committee for consideration. The director shall not refer the grievance to the monitoring committee if the judicial candidate has exhausted the remedies provided for under the agreement.

(3) The director, chair, or vice-chair may refer a grievance to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel under any of the following circumstances:

(a) The probable cause panel fails to find probable cause that a violation of Canon 4 has occurred;

(b) The director, chair, or vice-chair determines that it is unnecessary to handle the grievance on an expedited basis;

(c) The complainant withdraws the grievance or fails to prosecute the complaint before the Board hearing panel, five-judge commission, or Supreme Court.

(B) *Probable cause panel; filing of formal complaint.* If, after reviewing the grievance, the director, chair, or vice-chair determines that the grievance is facially valid, that the Board has jurisdiction over the matters raised in the grievance, and that the grievance should be considered on an expedited basis, the director immediately shall appoint three members of the Board to determine whether there is probable cause that a violation of Canon 4 has occurred. No member of the probable cause panel shall be a resident of the judicial district from which the grievance arose. The probable cause panel shall determine probable cause within five days after the grievance was filed and may conduct a hearing to facilitate the determination of probable cause. If the probable cause panel finds probable cause that a violation of Canon 4 has occurred, the panel shall notify the director who shall prepare a formal complaint based on instructions from the probable cause panel.

(C) *Appointment of hearing panel; proceedings on the formal complaint.*

(1) Within three days of the probable cause determination, the chair shall appoint three members of the Board to conduct a formal hearing on the complaint. One member of the hearing panel shall be a nonattorney member of the Board, and no member of the hearing panel shall be a resident of the judicial district in which the complaint arose. The director shall forward a copy of the complaint to each member of the hearing panel, the complainant, and the respondent.

(2) The chair or director may designate former members of the Board to serve on probable cause and hearing panels appointed pursuant to divisions (B) and (C)(1) of this section.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

Section 6. Campaign Conduct; Enforcement and Sanctions; Justices and Candidates for the Supreme Court.

A grievance that alleges a violation by a judicial candidate for the Supreme Court of Canon 4 of the Code of Judicial Conduct during the course of a campaign for judicial office shall be brought, conducted, and disposed of in accordance with this section.

(A) *Initial review.*

(1) The grievance shall be filed with the director of the Board of Professional Conduct. The director shall promptly forward the grievance and any supporting documentation to the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, elected pursuant to section 2501.03 of the Revised Code. Within two days of receiving the grievance, the Chief Judge shall review the grievance to determine whether the grievance alleges a violation of Canon 4 by a judicial candidate for the Supreme Court and whether the grievance should be considered on an expedited basis. If the Chief Judge determines that no Canon 4 violation is alleged or that the grievance should not be considered on an expedited basis, the Chief Judge may dismiss the grievance and notify the grievant of such determination or proceed with a review of the grievance pursuant to Section 4 of this rule.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(3) The review panel shall notify the Chief Judge of its probable cause determination and, if applicable, instructions regarding the preparation of a formal complaint. If the review panel finds no probable cause, the Chief Judge shall dismiss the grievance and notify the grievant. If the review panel finds probable cause, the Chief Judge shall instruct the director of the Board of Professional Conduct to prepare a formal complaint in accordance with the instructions of the probable cause panel and in the name of the grievant as relator. Upon preparation of the formal complaint, the director shall serve a copy of the formal complaint on the relator and respondent and transmit a copy to the Chief Judge.

(B) *Appointment of hearing panel; proceedings on the formal complaint.*

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(3) Within five days of the conclusion of the hearing, the hearing panel shall prepare and issue a report of its findings and recommendations. If the panel finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that the respondent violated Canon 4 of the Code of Judicial Conduct and that a sanction for such violation is warranted, the hearing panel's report and the record of the proceedings shall be certified to the director, together with a recommendation as to whether the complaint should be considered on an expedited basis and whether the five-judge commission appointed pursuant to division (C) of this section should issue a cease and desist order pursuant to division (C)(2) of this section. If the hearing panel determines, by clear and convincing evidence, that a violation of Canon 4 has occurred, the hearing panel shall determine whether the respondent previously has been found to have violated Canon 4 and include the determination in its report. The director shall provide a copy of the hearing panel's report to the

Chief Judge and send a copy of the hearing panel's report to the relator and respondent by certified mail.

(C) *Appointment of five-judge commission; proceedings before the commission.*

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(3) The commission's determination and any cease and desist order shall be sent to the director who shall provide a copy to the Chief Judge and serve a copy on the respondent and relator by certified mail. At the conclusion of all proceedings before the hearing panel, the director shall file the record of such proceedings with the Clerk of the Supreme Court as provided in division (F)(1) of this section.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(F) *Miscellaneous provisions.*

(1) Upon the filing of a formal complaint, the director of the Board of Professional Conduct shall serve as clerk for the Chief Judge, the hearing panel, and the five-judge commission. The relator and respondent shall file all pleadings, motions, documents, and other material with the director, who shall transmit the documents and materials to the Chief Judge and the appropriate panel. The Chief Judge, the panel, and the five-judge commission shall transmit all orders, opinions, and other materials to the director for service on or distribution to the parties. The director shall maintain a complete record of the proceedings and, upon conclusion of the proceedings before the hearing panel and five-judge commission, certify the record, including exhibits, to the Clerk of the Supreme Court who shall maintain the certified record. The Clerk shall serve as clerk for the adjudicatory panel, and all proceedings before the adjudicatory panel shall be conducted as provided in this section and the Rules of Practice of the Supreme Court of Ohio. Upon request, the director and Clerk shall assist the Chief Judge, hearing panel, five-judge commission, and adjudicatory panel with ministerial matters such as scheduling a location for hearings and securing a court reporter.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

Section 7. Miscellaneous Provisions.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(D) Any sanction imposed by the five-judge commission or adjudicatory panel shall be published by the Supreme Court Reporter in the manner prescribed in Rule V, Section 17 of the Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio and noted in the public records maintained by the Supreme Court Office of Attorney Services.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

Section 8. Definitions.

As used in this rule:

(A) “Complaint,” “probable cause,” and “misconduct” have the same meanings as in Gov. Bar R. V;

(B) “Costs” means expenses incurred by the Board of Professional Conduct, the Supreme Court, and any panel or commission of judges in conducting proceedings under this rule;

(C) “Disciplinary sanction” means any of the sanctions set forth in Gov. Bar R. V, Section 12, removal, or suspension from office;

(D) “Good cause,” for purposes of Sections 4(A) and (B)(1) of this rule, means that, based on a review of a grievance and any response received, there exists an articulable legal and factual basis to warrant further investigation of the allegations contained in the grievance;

(E) “Judicial candidate” has the same meaning as in Rule 4.6 of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

[Effective: July 1, 1983; amended effective January 1, 1986; October 1, 1986; September 1, 1987; January 1, 1988; January 1, 1993; July 1, 1995; September 1, 1995; January 1, 1996; June 1, 1997; November 1, 1999; January 1, 2004; January 1, 2010; August 11, 2015.]

RULE III. Disability Retirement, Removal, or Suspension of Judges.

The following rule is adopted pursuant to sections 2701.11 and 2701.12 of the Revised Code.

Section 1. Complaint.

(A)(1) Six copies of the written and sworn complaint required by section 2701.11 of the Revised Code shall be filed with the director of the Board of Professional Conduct of the Supreme Court when it is determined by the Office of Disciplinary Counsel after investigation pursuant to Gov. Jud. R. II that probable cause exists for the filing of a complaint. The director shall transmit the complaint to the chair of the Board. The complaint shall set forth specifically the grounds claimed to be cause for retirement, removal, or suspension of the justice or judge from office and the time and place the acts or omissions occurred that are alleged to be cause for such retirement, removal, or suspension under section 2701.12 of the Revised Code. The filing of a complaint by the Office of Disciplinary Counsel or by the president or chair of a certified grievance committee shall constitute a representation that, after investigation, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel or a certified grievance committee has determined that probable cause exists to warrant a hearing on the complaint. Complaints shall be filed in the name of either

disciplinary counsel or the bar association that sponsors the certified grievance committee as relator.

(2) At the time the written and sworn complaint is filed with the director of the Board, the written and sworn complaint and all proceedings in connection with the complaint shall be public.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

Section 2. Action on the Complaint.

(A)(1) Upon receipt of a written and sworn complaint, the chair of the Board shall convene the Board and present the complaint. The director of the Board shall send a copy of the complaint to the judge against whom the complaint is made. The Board shall then review the investigation made by the Office of Disciplinary Counsel or a certified grievance committee. If, after review of the investigation, two-thirds of the members of the Board determine that there is substantial credible evidence in support of the complaint, the director of the Board shall certify to the Supreme Court the result of the investigation.

(2) The report of the Board shall be sent by certified mail to the judge against whom the complaint is made at the same time it is sent to the Supreme Court.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

Section 5. Procedure.

(A) The commission may take testimony in any manner prescribed by Ohio law. All rules of evidence shall be observed in the conduct of hearings before the commission. Respondent may be represented by counsel.

(B) The commission shall issue subpoenas for witnesses under the seal of the Supreme Court, signed by a member of the commission or the director of the Board. The refusal or neglect of a person subpoenaed as a witness to obey a subpoena, to attend, to be sworn or to affirm, or to answer any proper question shall be considered contempt of the Supreme Court, and the person shall be punished accordingly.

(C) Costs and expenses incurred by the Board and the commission shall be paid from the Attorney Services Fund. The Supreme Court may order that the fund be reimbursed by the respondent if the proceeding terminates in retirement, removal, or suspension without pay.

(D) This rule and regulations relating to investigations and proceedings involving complaints and petitions for reinstatement shall be liberally construed for the protection of the public and the courts and shall apply to all pending investigations and complaints so far as may be practicable, and to all future investigations, complaints, and petitions whether the conduct involved occurred prior or subsequent to the adoption of this rule.

Section 6. Disqualification or Suspension without Pay; Criminal Charge or Conviction.

(A) A justice or judge is disqualified from acting as a justice or judge while there is pending an indictment or an information charging the Justice or judge with a crime punishable as a felony under state or federal law.

(B) A justice or judge shall be suspended from judicial office without pay if the justice or judge pleads guilty or no contest to or is found guilty of a crime punishable as a felony under state or federal law.

(C)(1) The judge presiding over a case that satisfies the circumstances described in division (B) of this section shall prepare a certified notice of a verdict of guilty, a judicial finding of guilt, or a guilty or no contest plea. The judge shall transmit the certified notice to the director of the Board of Professional Conduct and to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. Upon receipt from any source of the certified notice, the director promptly shall submit the certified notice to the Supreme Court. The director shall submit the certified notice regardless of the pendency of an appeal.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

[Effective: July 1, 1983; amended effective October 1, 1986; January 1, 1988; January 1, 1993; June 22, 1998; January 1, 2013; August 11, 2015.]

THE OHIO CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

RULE 3.15 Reporting Requirements

A judge shall file annually the disclosure statement required by R.C. 102.02 with the director of the Board of Professional Conduct of the Supreme Court of Ohio. The completion and filing of the annual disclosure statement fulfills the reporting requirements set forth in Rules 3.12, 3.13, and 3.14.

(B) [RESERVED]

(C) [RESERVED]

(D) [RESERVED]

Comment

[1] The information required to be reported by Rules 3.12, 3.13, and 3.14 is a portion of the information that must be included on the annual financial disclosure statement mandated by R.C. 102.02. A judge is obligated to disclose fully and accurately all information requested on the annual disclosure statement and does not fulfill the statutory obligation by reporting only the information required by Rules 3.12, 3.13, and 3.14.

[2] Previously, judges were required to report extrajudicial income and gifts on both the statutorily mandated form and on a quasi-judicial or extrajudicial activity compensation report that was required to be filed with the Board of Professional Conduct. Rule 3.15 simplifies the reporting requirements by allowing judges to complete a single form to satisfy the reporting requirements of this Code and the Revised Code.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

RULE 4.2 Political and Campaign Activities of Judicial Candidates

(A) A *judicial candidate* shall be responsible for all of the following:

(1) Acting at all times in a manner consistent with the *independence, integrity, and impartiality* of the judiciary;

(2) Reviewing and approving the content of all campaign statements and materials produced by the *judicial candidate* or his or her campaign committee before their dissemination;

(3) The content of any statement communicated in any medium by his or her campaign committee and for compliance by his or her campaign committee with the

limitations on campaign solicitations and *contributions* contained in Rule 4.4, if the candidate knew of the statement, solicitation, or *contribution*;

(4) No earlier than one year prior to or no later than sixty days after certification of his or her candidacy by the election authority, completing a two-hour course in campaign practices, finance, and ethics accredited by the Commission on Continuing Legal Education and certifying such completion within five days of the date of the course to the Board of Professional Conduct.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

RULE 4.4 Campaign Solicitations and Contributions

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(N) On or before the first day of December beginning in 2008 and every four years thereafter, the director of the Board of Professional Conduct shall determine the percentage change over the preceding forty-eight months in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, or its successive equivalent, as determined by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, or its successor in responsibility, for all items, Series A. The director shall apply that percentage change to the *contribution* limitations then in effect and notify the Supreme Court of the results of that calculation. The Supreme Court may adopt revised *contribution* limitations based on the director's calculation or other factors that the Court considers appropriate.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

FORM OF CITATION, EFFECTIVE DATE, APPLICATION

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(J) The amendments to Jud. Cond. Rule 3.15 and Comment [2], Jud. Cond. Rule 4.2(A)(4), and Jud. Cond. Rule 4.4(N), adopted August 11, 2015, shall take effect on August 11, 2015.