

Samuel A. Thumma  
Chair, Arizona Commission on Access to Justice  
Judge, Arizona Court of Appeals  
Division One  
State Courts Building  
1501 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007-3329  
Telephone: (602) 452-6700

**IN THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF ARIZONA**

In the Matter of: ) Supreme Court No. R-24-0017  
)  
PETITION TO ADD ARIZ. R. EVID. ) **COMMENTS OF THE ARIZONA**  
107 AND AMEND ARIZ. R. EVID. ) **COMMISSION ON ACCESS TO**  
1006 ) **JUSTICE SUPPORTING THE**  
) **PETITION**  
)

---

The Arizona Commission on Access to Justice is charged with considering and recommending innovative ways to promote access to justice for individuals who cannot afford legal counsel or who choose to represent themselves in civil cases. Established in 2014, the Commission evaluates best practices, identifies possible changes in court rules or practices to reduce barriers to access, identifies and encourages the adoption of best practices among legal service providers, and considers potential long-term funding options.

Following a presentation at the April 11, 2024, Commission meeting, a motion was made and seconded that the Commission support Rule Change Petition No. R-24-0017. After discussion by members of the Commission, that motion passed

unanimously. This Comment is a result of that formal Commission action and is intended to reflect the Commission's support of the changes requested in the Petition.

The Petition would add Rrule 107 to the Arizona Rules of Evidence, which would outline procedures and guidelines for use of illustrative aids, including guidance for when a court may allow their presentation, how a jury may use them and defining an illustrative aid. This clarification assists self-represented litigants by clarifying when such information may be used and how. Any clarification in process or procedure assists in ensuring access to justice.

For these reasons, the Commission supports the adoption of the proposed amendments requested in Petition No. R-24-0017.

DATED this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Samuel A. Thumma  
Chair, Arizona Commission on Access to Justice  
Judge, Arizona Court of Appeals  
Division One  
State Courts Building  
1501 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007-3329