

**Appendix A**  
**Allow Judges Option for Conference Team**  
**Report Reviewed by Commission**

**Rule 4. Meetings and Actions**

**(a) [No changes]**

**(b) Election-Related Meetings.**

**(1) [No changes]**

**(A) – (D) [No changes]**

**(E) Before a Commission member may request the Commission invite a judge to an executive session under Rule 4(b)(2), provided the judge has opted to allow the Commission access to his or her conference team report and self-improvement plan, time must be set aside during the meeting for the Commission to review the judge’s two most recent conference team reports and self-improvement plans. These documents must be redacted to remove any identifying information.**

**(2) – (3) [No changes]**

**(c) – (g) [No changes]**

**(h) Executive Session.**

(1) *When Required.* The Commission must meet in executive session as follows:

(A) [No changes]

(B) During the Performance Evaluation Process. To promote open and frank discussion and accuracy in the performance evaluation process, during:

(i) – (iv) [No changes]

(v) All review and discussion of Conference Team reports must be done in executive session.

(2) – (5) [No changes]

## **Rule 8. Conference Teams**

(a) – (e) [No changes]

**(f) Meetings.** Meetings of the Conference Team require the presence of all 3 members. Conference Team meeting logistics are within their discretion. The substance of Conference Team meetings is confidential; except that, with the judge's permission, the Conference Team report will be made available to the Commission for review prior to an invitation being issued under Rule 4(b)(2).

(g) [No changes]

**(h) Conference Team Report.** The judge and Conference Team must develop a written plan for self-improvement. Once finalized, the plan must be signed by the judge and the Conference Team members.

(1) [No changes]

(2) *Distribution.* The self-improvement plan is distributed only to the judge being reviewed, the judge's presiding or chief judge, ~~and~~ the Chief Justice and, if the judge opts to share their conference team report with the Commission, to the Commission as well. With the judge's permission, the conference team report must be redacted to remove any identifying information and provided to the Commission for review prior to the invitational meeting. At the invitational meeting, the report does not need to be redacted. Additionally, the ~~The self-~~ improvement plan, with the name of the judge redacted, may be distributed to the Administrative Office of the Courts for use in development of judicial education programs. ~~Neither the Conference Team Report nor the self-improvement plan may be distributed to the Commission or used by the Commission in determining whether a judge meets the judicial performance standards for retention.~~