

SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of	)	Arizona Supreme Court
	)	No. R-24-0060
RULE 77, RULES OF FAMILY LAW	)	
PROCEDURE	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	FILED 03/21/2025

O R D E R

In January 2022, three superior court judges submitted a rule petition, R-22-0007, proposing to amend Rule 77 of the Rules of Family Law Procedure and to adopt a new Rule 77.1 of the same rules. The proposed rule changes would authorize, with party consent, an informal family law trial ("IFLT") program that would replace the current adversarial system with a less formal proceeding managed by the trial court. Since that time, the petition has been continued pending the completion of a pilot program and further consideration by the Committee on Family Court ("the Committee").

In December 2024, the Committee submitted this rule petition, which set forth a "hybrid" version of the rule changes proposed in R-22-0007. The petition asked the Court to consider giving counties the choice of adopting IFLT rules that would apply only if the parties consented to them or adopting IFLT

rules that would apply unless a party requested that they not apply in that party's case.

On March 7, 2025, the Committee moved to amend its petition to substantially scale back its proposed rule changes. The amended petition no longer proposes the adoption of its earlier proposed IFLT rules. Instead, it proposes to amend Rules 22 and 77 of the Rules of Family Law Procedure merely to direct trial judges to conduct the direct-examination of every self-represented party in a case.

Upon consideration,

IT IS ORDERED granting the Committee's motion to amend its petition in this matter.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the deadline for submitting a comment on this petition, as amended, is extended from May 1, 2025 to May 23, 2025, and the deadline for the Committee to submit a reply is extended from June 2, 2025 to June 13, 2025.

DATED this 21st day of March, 2025.

_____/s/_____
ANN A. SCOTT TIMMER
Chief Justice

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TO:

Rule 28 Distribution

Hon D Gregory Sakall