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7 **IN THE SUPREME COURT**
8 **OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA**

9 Supreme Court No. 26-0014

10 In the Matter of:

11 **PETITION TO AMEND RULE 36(e)**
12 **and (f), ARIZONA RULES OF THE**
13 **SUPREME COURT**

14 **REPLY IN SUPPORT OF**
15 **PETITION**

16 Petitioner hereby replies to the Comment in Opposition to this Petition filed
17 by the Attorney Regulation Committee (“ARC”) on April 27, 2026.

18 Regarding the factual background described in the Comment, Petitioner has a
19 couple of minor comments. First, Petitioner did offer some evidence—her word.
20 Petitioner did not list names of applicants because those names are confidential.
21 Petitioner is not representing any client in this Petition. Petitioner prepared this
22 Petition (and others) on behalf of applicants generally, in her capacity as a lawyer
23 who frequently represents applicants and has done so for nearly 20 years. Second,
24 Petitioner is of the impression that inquiries or hearings that take “several days” are
25 rare. This impression is based on the fact that Petitioner has represented over three
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1 hundred applicants now and does not recall ever having had (or heard of) a hearing
2 or an inquiry that took longer than one day—other than an examination-related
3 hearing that Mark Harrison and Scott Rhodes worked on.
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5 Moving on to the issue of including a deadline for reports, the Comment and
6 its Exhibit raise the following thoughts for Petitioner:
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- 8 • While there were over 1100 applicants in 2025, there were only 57
9 inquiries or hearings. The Committee does not have to prepare any
10 report on the other 1,000 + applicants.
- 11 • The Committee did not have to prepare a report on all 57 of the inquiries
12 or hearings, either. Only in certain categories. The Comment does not
13 indicate how many of the 57 inquiries/hearings in 2025 required a
14 written report. (Petitioner guesses approximately half, given the
15 number of conditional admissions for 2025.)
- 16 • Seven (7) of the unknown (but less than 57) number of
17 inquiries/hearings that required a written report took longer than the
18 average time frame of 57 days, according to the Comment. The Exhibit
19 to the Comment does not specify how much longer for those seven (7).
- 20 • When considering an average time of 57 days to issue a decision, it
21 should be remembered that the applicant already waited at minimum
22 one month longer than other applicants that year—and usually more
23 like three months longer—just to get to the hearing/inquiry.
- 24 • There may be additional waiting time even after getting the decision if
25 the Court must approve the decision.
- 26 • The minutes of the ARC meeting for March 17, 2026, show that four
27 members voted against opposing the Petition. Naturally one of those
28 was Petitioner. Another was a law school professor who works with
students regularly. Petitioner finds it interesting that the other two
objections were from two of the three public members on the ARC.

1 While Petitioner understands that it is difficult to ask volunteers with full-time
2 jobs to expedite their preparation of a decision, Petitioner is of the opinion that the
3 lack of any written time frame does not help with that situation. Petitioner is of the
4 opinion that the average time frame of 57 days is too long, and the seven outlying
5 times were most definitely too long. Petitioner does not think this is anything “bad”
6 reflecting on the Committee members, and in fact understands that one of the
7 Committee members passed away during this time. Clearly there are going to be
8 emergency situations, and Petitioner understands that. However, this situation is
9 structural in nature, and Petitioner believes it can be addressed structurally.
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14 Petitioner therefore offers the following practical suggestions:

- 15 • Add additional lawyer members to the Committee.
- 16 • Alert applicants to the Committee that at least one written report per
17 year is expected — perhaps two, depending on how many members
18 there end up being.
- 19 • As the Petition said, include a timeframe in the Rules. Simply having
20 a “deadline” will help. It never hurts to have expectations. Lawyers,
21 like people in general, tend to procrastinate.¹
- 22 • To alleviate concern that there will be an emergency, the Court could
23 include language similar to what is in the disciplinary hearing rule:

24 “(k) Decision. Within thirty (30) days after completion of the formal
25 hearing proceedings or receipt of the transcript, whichever is later, the
26 hearing panel shall prepare and file with the disciplinary clerk a written

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28 ¹ In fact, this Reply is being written two days late.

1 decision [. . .]. *The hearing panel shall notify the parties when the*
2 *decision will be filed outside the time limits of this rule and shall state*
3 *the reason for the delay. [. . .].”*

4 Rule 58(k) (emphasis added), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

- 5 • Alternatively, the Court could include language like this, loosely based
6 on Rule 58(j) and Rule 51(c)(4), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

7 “Time Limits. The hearing/inquiry panel shall notify the applicant and
8 transmit those findings to the clerk of this Court within 30 days of the
9 hearing. Continuances may be granted following written request to the
10 Chair of the Committee for no more than thirty (30) days at a time, and
11 may not extend the date of the decision beyond ninety (90) days from
12 the date of the hearing/inquiry, except as otherwise provided by the
13 Chair of the Committee.

- 14 • One Committee member on each hearing/inquiry panel could be
15 prepared to be the “back up” if for any reason the investigating member
16 becomes unable to prepare the report.

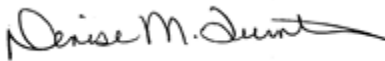
16 CONCLUSION

17 Finally, and this is important – the Committee could inform applicants of the
18 result of the hearing or inquiry as soon as they reach a decision—while advising that
19 a formal writing will follow. There is no actual requirement that notification of the
20 results wait for a written report with findings of fact, *et cetera*. Years ago, the
21 Committee would let the applicant or the applicant’s counsel know right after the
22 hearing (or within a day). Then, somebody decided that since the rule says “in
23 writing” that meant the applicant had to wait for a formal written decision. Well—
24 an email is “in writing.” Letting the applicant know the recommendation is to admit
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28 would alleviate tremendous amounts of stress and could also, in many instances,

1 allow that applicant to keep a job. Employers hesitate to continue to employ
2 somebody indefinitely without any idea of what is going to happen. Letting the
3 applicant know the recommendation is against admission would be upsetting but
4 would be preferable to waiting anxiously for months to learn.

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6 In sum, Petitioner respectfully requests amendment of Rule 36(e) and (f),
7 Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., for the reasons stated above and as proposed in the Petition.
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11 Respectfully submitted this _3rd_ day of June, 2026.
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16 _____
Denise M. Quinterri

17 **ELECTRONICALLY** filed
18 on the Court Rules Forum of the Arizona Supreme Court
19 this _3rd_ day of June, 2026.
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