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**IN THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA**

PETITION TO AMEND RULE
31.19(h), ARIZ. R. CRIM. P., AND
RULES 4(a), 15(a) AND 23(h), ARIZ.
R. CIV. APP. P.

Supreme Court No. R-11-0045

**Comment of the State Bar of Arizona
on Petition to Amend Rule 31.19(h),
Ariz. R. Crim. P. and Rules 4(a), 15(a)
and 23(h), Ariz. R. Civ. App. P.**

The State Bar of Arizona supports the above-referenced petition. On September 1, 2011, the Arizona Supreme Court amended the Rules of Criminal and Civil Appellate Procedure and implemented electronic filing in Arizona's appellate courts, including requiring petitions and cross-petitions for review to be filed in the Supreme Court rather than in the Court of Appeals. The amendments proposed in the instant petition are intended to correct oversights in the newly amended rules.

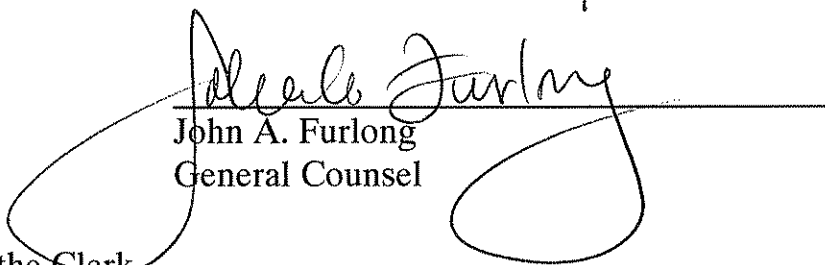
The petition seeks to modify the rules to reflect that petitions/cross-petitions for review filed in the Supreme Court, once denied, need not be "returned" to the Court of Appeals since such petitions are no longer filed there in the first instance. It suggests only a modification of the existing rules to bring them into conformity with recent amendments. For this reason, Rule 31.19(h), Ariz. R. Crim. P., and Rules 4(a), 15(a) and 23(h), Ariz. R. Civ. App. P., should be amended to conform with the 2011 rule changes.

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Conclusion

For the reasons discussed above, the State Bar of Arizona supports the petition and requests that the Court adopt the rule changes on a permanent basis.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 18th day of May, 2012.



A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "John A. Furlong". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

John A. Furlong
General Counsel

Electronic copy filed with the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Arizona this 18th day of May, 2012.

by: Kathleen A. Ludwig