

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

**FILED**  
**DEC 10 2009**  
Clerk of the Courts

**IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO RULE 6 and RULE 7, ART. VIII,  
RULES OF THE TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT**

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No. M2009-02033-SC-RL2-RL

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**ORDER**

On October 5, 2009, the Court filed an order soliciting public comments concerning proposed amendments to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 6 and to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 7, Art. VIII, which amendments would delete the requirement that applicants for admission to the Tennessee bar state their intent to practice law in this state. The public comment period expired on November 4, 2009.

After due consideration, the Court hereby amends Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 6 and Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 7 as set out in the Appendix to this Order, deleting the statement-of-intent requirement. The amendments shall take effect upon the filing of this order.

The Clerk shall provide a copy of this order to LexisNexis and to Thomson Reuters/West. In addition, this order shall be posted on the Tennessee Supreme Court's website.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

FOR THE COURT:

  
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JANICE M. HOLDER, CHIEF JUSTICE

**APPENDIX**

**AMENDMENTS TO RULES 6 & 7,  
RULES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE**

[Amend Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 6 to read as follows:]

**Rule 6. Admission of attorneys.** — An applicant may seek admission to the bar of this Court by either:

(1) Appearing in open court and representing through a reputable member of the bar, that he or she is a citizen of this State, a person of good moral character, and has been duly licensed to practice law under the statutes of this State; or

(2) Filing with the Clerk an application for admission by affidavit. Such application shall contain:

(A) A personal statement by the applicant that he or she possesses all qualifications and meets all requirements for admission as set out in the preceding paragraph; and

(B) A statement by two sponsors (who must be members of the Bar of this Court and must personally know the applicant) endorsing the correctness of the applicant's statement, stating that the applicant possesses all the qualifications required for admission and affirming that the applicant is of good moral and professional character. Upon timely application and for good cause shown, the Board of Law Examiners, in its discretion, may waive this requirement.

(3) The documents submitted by the applicant shall demonstrate that he or she possesses the necessary qualifications for admission. Upon the applicant's taking the oath or affirmation and paying the fee therefor, the Clerk shall issue a certificate of admission. The fee for admission to the Bar of this Court shall be fixed by the Court. Applications may be filed in the offices of the Clerk at Nashville, Knoxville, or Jackson.

(4) Each applicant for admission shall take the following oath:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, and that I will truly and honestly demean myself in the practice of my profession to the best of my skill and abilities, so help me God.

(5) The foregoing oath of admission may be administered by one of the following judicial officials in Tennessee: (A) a Justice of the Supreme Court; (B) a Judge of the Court of Appeals; (C)

a Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals; (D) a Circuit Court Judge; (E) a Chancellor; (F) a Criminal Court Judge; (G) a General Sessions Court Judge; (H) a Judge of any other inferior court established by the General Assembly pursuant to Article VI, Section 1 of the Tennessee Constitution; (I) the Clerk of the Appellate Courts; (J) a Chief Deputy Clerk of the Appellate Courts; or (K) the Clerk (not including deputy clerks) of any of the courts of such trial judges listed above. The oath of admission also may be administered by a justice or judge of the court of last resort in any other state.

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[Amend Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 7, Article VIII to read as follows:]

**Rule 7. Licensing of Attorneys.**

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ARTICLE VIII—COMMITMENT TO SERVE THE ADMINISTRATION  
OF JUSTICE IN TENNESSEE

**Sec. 8.01. Applicable Standard.** — The requisite commitment to serve the administration of justice in Tennessee subject to the duties and standards imposed on attorneys in this State shall be evidenced by a statement by the applicant before examination, or admission by comity, that the applicant agrees to abide by the duties and standards imposed from time to time on attorneys in this State.

**Sec. 8.02. [Deleted.]**

**Sec. 8.03. [Deleted.]**

*(end of Appendix)*