

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED 11/04/2024 Clerk of the Appellate Courts
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IN RE: PETITION TO AMEND TENN. SUP. CT. R. 9, SECTION 10.1

No. ADM2024-00922

ORDER

On June 18, 2024, the Board of Professional Responsibility (“Board”) filed a petition asking this Court to amend Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, section 10.1 to classify as confidential and not public record the personal home addresses and contact information Tennessee attorneys provide to the Board. The Board’s petition was published for public comment, and the comment period expired July 26, 2024. All comments favored the Board’s proposal. However, the Tennessee Bar Association (“TBA”), the Knoxville Bar Association (“KBA”), and others suggested modifying the proposal to require attorneys to provide the Board with some form of contact information that will remain publicly available. The TBA offered to collaborate with the Board to draft language to implement this revision.

On September 17, 2024, the Board moved this Court for permission to file a reply to the public comments, and this request was granted on September 25, 2024. In its reply, the Board presented a revised proposal, developed after collaboration with the TBA, which requires attorneys to provide the Board with contact information that will remain publicly available and describes the proper usage of confidential attorney contact information by this Court and its agencies.

Upon consideration of the foregoing, Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, section 10.1 is hereby amended as set forth in the Appendix to this Order. The effective date of this amendment is January 1, 2025, which affords attorneys time to provide the Board with contact information that will remain publicly available.

The Clerk shall provide a copy of this Order and Appendix to Lexis Nexis and to Thomson Reuters. In addition, this Order and Appendix shall be posted on the Tennessee Supreme Court’s website.

It is so ORDERED.

PER CURIAM

**APPENDIX
ADM2024-0922**

AMENDMENT TO TENN. SUP. CT. R. 9, SECTION 10.1

[New text is indicated by underlining. Deleted text is indicated by
overstriking.]

10.1. Every attorney admitted to practice before this Court, except those exempt under Section 10.3(b) and (c), shall, on or before the first day of their birth month, file with the Board at its central office an annual registration statement on a form prescribed by the Board, setting forth the attorney's current residence, office, and email addresses, and such other information as the Board may direct. The attorney shall designate information by which the attorney may be contacted by clients and members of the public, including an email address, or a telephone number, or a physical or post office box address, which will be treated by the Board as public records. Other contact information of the attorney the Board may direct the attorney to provide, including ~~the attorney's residence address, cellular telephone number, home telephone number, and personal non-government issued e-mail address are confidential and not public records. However, the nonpublic information may be used by this Court and its agencies in the course of business and may be available to Tennessee courts and licensed attorneys upon written request to the Board's registration department. If, however, (1) the attorney failed to provide an office address, office telephone number, or office e-mail address; or (2) the attorney listed the residence address, cellular telephone number or home telephone number, or personal non-government issued e-mail address as the attorney's office address, office telephone number, or office e-mail address as the attorney's office address, office telephone number, or office email address respectively, then the attorney's nonpublic information of the same category shall no longer be subject to the protection afforded under this Rule. The attorney may designate the primary or preferred address for receipt of correspondence from the Board.~~ In addition to such annual statement, every attorney shall file electronically with the Board through the Board's Attorney Portal as necessary a supplemental statement of any change in information previously submitted within thirty days of such change.

(End of Appendix)