

NOTICE TO THE BAR

RE: Arbitration Program -- Proposed Amendments to Rules 1:40-12(c); 4:21A-1(c)(1); 4:21A-2(b), (c), and (d); and 4:21A-3 - Publication for Comment

Published with this Notice are [proposed amendments to four Rules of Court relating to the court-annexed arbitration program](#). The Supreme Court invites written comments on these proposed rule amendments that were recommended by the Court's Arbitration Advisory Committee. The proposed amendments are the result of discussions and suggestions at the Judiciary-sponsored statewide arbitration conference that was held in May 2003.

The Supreme Court has authorized publication of these proposed amendments for comment as part of the 2002-04 rules cycle. Thus, the closing date for the comment period is the same April 30 date as that announced for the previously published 2002-04 reports of the Court's several rules committees. Accordingly, any comments on these proposed amendments should be submitted in writing by Friday, April 30, 2004 to:

Richard J. Williams, J.A.D.
Administrative Director of the Courts
Rules Comments
Hughes Justice Complex; P. O. Box 037
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0037

Comments on the proposed rule amendments also may be submitted via Internet e-mail to the following address:
Comments.Mailbox@njcourts.gov.

The Supreme Court will not consider comments submitted anonymously. Thus, those submitting comments by mail should include their name and address (and those submitting comments by e-mail should include their name and e-mail address). However, comments submitted in response to this notice will be maintained in confidence if the author specifically requests confidentiality. In the absence of such a request, the author's identity and his or her comments may be subject to public disclosure after the Court has acted on these recommendations.

The Court will be acting on these recommendations in June 2004 in conjunction with its consideration of the rules committee reports, with any adopted rule amendments likely to become effective September 1, 2004.

Richard J. Williams, J.A.D.
Administrative Director of the Courts
Dated: March 22, 2004