

Brief discussion of proposed rule changes to the Local Rules of Practice for the Circuit Court,
19th District

- Rule 3.04 The reference to appropriate attire for attorneys is new.
- Rule 3.09 There is currently a prohibition in the rules against weapons being present during court proceedings. The rule has been clarified with regard to what proceedings are “court proceedings” and to make it clear that the prohibition applies to counsel as well as witnesses and litigants.
- Rule 3.12 This is a new rule allowing for the publication of chamber rules.
- Rule 5.01 Minor changes are made to the rule to make it clear that pro se parties are responsible for making themselves aware of the court’s calendar.
- Rule 6.05 “Service” is defined consistently with the requirements of the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure.
- Rule 15 Personal appearance of counsel or parties at Show Cause Hearings is required. Other changes include creation of a presumptive Scheduling Order and delineation of specific consequences that may occur as a result of failure to appear for scheduled hearings.
- Rule 17 Several changes in discovery deadlines are made. Change is also made with respect to exchanging discovery in electronic formats and the way objections to discovery and motions to compel are handled. In Rule 17.06, supplementation of discovery is required to be made “in writing, or in testimony under oath.”
- Rules 18 and 19 There are several changes, particularly with respect to time lines and inclusions of specific sanctions.
- Rule 20.03 A change has been made which makes clear that removing a motion from the docket does not remove another party’s motion.
- Rule 24 Time lines have changed requiring exchange of exhibits, the furnishing of witness lists, filing of depositions, trial briefs, etc. Generally the time for furnishing these documents becomes 5 days before trial rather than 3 days under the previous rule.
- Rule 24.08 rule Requires the disclosure of income and expense statements, asset statements and proposed parenting plans in domestic relations cases prior to mediation. This rule also requires parenting classes to be completed and proof of completion provided prior to domestic relations matters being tried.

Rule 24.08(c) Is a new provision.

Rule 25.01 Contains new provisions concerning the time in which counsel are required to file orders reflecting decisions of the court.

Rule 25.03 Is a new provision requiring the filing of an Amended Complaint and responsive pleadings when jury trial demands are made in an appeal from General Sessions Court.

Rule 27.04 Emphasis has been supplied concerning the obligation of non-prevailing counsel to approve orders for entry.