

Arizona Supreme Court

Rule 28 Petition

R-25-0015

RULE 4 & 8, RULES OF JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE

Appellate Case Information

Case Filed: 10-Jan-2025
Case Closed:

Dept/Composition

Side 1. RULE 4 & 8, RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA, Other

(Litigant Group) PETITIONER: KATHRYN TOWNSEND

Kathryn Townsend, Petitioner PRO SE

(Litigant Group) COMMENTOR: COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

- Commission on Judicial Performance Review, Commentor
William F Auther, Commission on Judicial Performance Review, Commentor

CASE STATUS

Aug 28, 2025...Continued

Jan 10, 2025....Pending

6 PROCEEDING ENTRIES

- 1. 10-Jan-2025 FILED: Petition to Amend Rule 4 and Rule 8 of Rules of Procedure for Judicial Performance Review in the State of Arizona; Appendix A; Appendix B (Petitioner Kathryn Townsend, Arizona Commission on Judicial Performance Review, Commissioner)
2. 21-Jan-2025 Rule petitions have been filed in the above-captioned matters under Rule 28(a), Rules of the Supreme Court of Arizona. Upon consideration, IT IS ORDERED that these petitions are opened for public comment pursuant to Rule 28(c), Rules of the Supreme Court of Arizona. Comments must be submitted by no later than Thursday, May 1, 2025, and any reply by a petitioner must be submitted no later than Monday, June 2, 2025. Note that R-24-0005 is being reopened for public comment on the petitioner's second amended petition, filed January 3, 2025. The petitions may be viewed by going to: http://www.azcourts.gov/Rules-Forum. This opens the "Welcome" page. Petitions are posted under the appropriate body of rules. For example, the Rules of Criminal Procedure can be found by scrolling down the page. For instructions on how to post comments electronically, follow the steps listed above and click on http://www.azcourts.gov/rules/Forum-FAQ at the top of the "Forum FAQ" page and then "How do I file a comment on a Rule 28 petition?" Alternatively, commenters may submit comments by filing an original and one paper copy of the comment and one electronic copy of the written comments and supporting documents in Microsoft Word format on a CD or other compatible electronic medium with the Clerk of the Supreme Court, 1501 West Washington St., Room 402, Phoenix, AZ 85007 in an envelope marked "Rule Comment." Any person filing a comment must send a copy of the comment to the Petitioner electronically or by ordinary mail. (Hon. John R. Lopez IV)
3. 1-May-2025 FILED: Comment of Commission On Judicial Performance Review; Appendix A; Appendix B; Appendix C (Commission on Judicial Performance Review by William F. Auther, Chair)
4. 28-Aug-2025 WOULD AMEND RULES 4 AND 8 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW REGARDING COMMISSION REVIEW OF CONFERENCE TEAM REPORTS AND WHEN PUBLIC COMMENT MUST TAKE PLACE DURING A COMMISSION MEETING ORDERED: Petition to Amend Rule 4 and Rule 8 of Rules of Procedure for Judicial Performance Review in the State of Arizona = CONTINUED until the November 2025 Rules Agenda.
5. 26-Nov-2025 WOULD AMEND RULES 4 AND 8 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW REGARDING COMMISSION REVIEW OF CONFERENCE TEAM REPORTS AND WHEN PUBLIC COMMENT MUST TAKE PLACE DURING A COMMISSION MEETING ORDERED: Petition to Amend Rule 4 and Rule 8 of Rules of Procedure for Judicial Performance Review in the State of Arizona = ADOPTED as modified on an emergency basis, effective July 1, 2026. FURTHER ORDERED: The Court will decide whether to adopt the rule amendments on permanent basis during the August 2026 Rules Agenda. FURTHER ORDERED: This matter is opened for public comment on whether the amendments should be adopted on a permanent basis, with all comments due no later than May 1, 2026, and any reply by June 1, 2026.

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6 PROCEEDING ENTRIES

6. 26-Nov-2025 On January 10, 2025, Petitioner filed a petition proposing to amend Rules 4 and 8 of the Rules of Procedure for Judicial Performance Review in the State of Arizona. On May 1, 2025, the Court received one comment from the Chair of the Commission on Judicial Performance Review. On August 28, the Court continued consideration of this matter until the November 2025 Rules Agenda.

Having considered the petition and comment,

IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to Rule 28(h)(2) of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Arizona, that Rules 4 and 8 of the Rules of Procedure for Judicial Performance Review in the State of Arizona are amended on an emergency basis in accordance with the attachment to this order, effective July 1, 2026.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Court will consider whether to adopt these amendments on a permanent basis during its August 2026 Rules Agenda.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this matter is opened for public comment under Rule 28(c), Rules of the Supreme Court of Arizona, on whether to adopt these amendments on a permanent basis, with all comments due by no later than May 1, 2026, and any reply due no later than June 1, 2026.

Rule petitions, including this one, may be viewed by going to: <http://www.azcourts.gov/Rules-Forum>. This opens the "Welcome" page. Petitions are posted under the appropriate body of rules. For example, the Rules of Procedure for Judicial Performance Review can be found by scrolling down the page.

For instructions on how to post comments electronically, follow the steps listed above and click on "FAQ" at the top of the "Welcome" page and then find "How do I file a comment on a Rule 28 petition?"

Alternatively, commenters may submit a comment by filing an original and one paper copy of the comment and one electronic copy of the written comment and any supporting documents in Microsoft Word format on a CD or other compatible electronic medium with the Clerk of the Supreme Court, 1501 West Washington St., Room 402, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, in an envelope marked "Rule Comment."

Any person filing a comment must send a copy of the comment to the Petitioner electronically or by ordinary mail. (Hon. Ann A. Scott Timmer)