

Arizona Supreme Court

Rule 28 Petition

R-26-0031

RULE 77, RULES OF FAMILY LAW PROCEDURE

Appellate Case Information

Case Filed: 1-May-2026

Case Closed:

Dept/Composition

Side 1. RULE 77, RULES OF FAMILY LAW PROCEDURE, Other (Litigant Group) PETITIONER: COMMITTEE ON FAMILY COURT

- Committee on Family Court, Commentor
D Gregory Sakall, Committee on Family Court, Commentor

CASE STATUS

May 1, 2026.....Pending

2 PROCEEDING ENTRIES

1. 1-May-2026 FILED: Emergency Petition to Amend Rule 77, Arizona Rules of Family Law Procedure (Committee on Family Court by Hon. Greg Sakall, Judge Division 23, Pima County Superior Court)

2. 4-May-2026 On May 1, 2026, Judge Greg Sakall, Chair of the Committee on Family Court, filed a rule petition on the Committee's behalf to amend Rule 77(d)(2) of the Rules of Family Rule Procedure. The proposed amendment is intended to clarify that only the self-represented party—and not an opposing party—may object to the court conducting direct examination of that party.

Petitioner further requests that the petition be given expedited consideration under Rule 28(h)(1), Rules of the Supreme Court of Arizona, and be adopted on an emergency basis under Rule 28(h)(2) of the same rules. Upon consideration,

IT IS ORDERED granting the request to consider this petition on an expedited basis.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that during its August 2026 Rules Agenda, the Court will consider whether to adopt the proposed amendment to Rule 77(d)(2) on an emergency basis. If it does, the Court will consider whether to adopt the rule amendment on a permanent basis during its December 2026 Rules Agenda. If it decides not to adopt the proposed rule amendment on an emergency basis, the Court will decide whether to adopt it on a non-emergency basis during its December 2026 Rules Agenda.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this petition is opened for public comment under Rule 28(c), Rules of the Supreme Court of Arizona, with all comments due no later than October 1, 2026, and any reply due no later than October 15, 2026.

The petition 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 Family Law Procedure can be found by scrolling down the page.

For instructions on how to post comments electronically, click on https://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 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. Ann A. Scott Timmer)