

# THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUGGESTED )  
AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL RULES (GR) 1, )  
12.4, AND 24 )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

ORDER

NO. 25700-A-1492

The Washington State Bar Association, having recommended the suggested amendments to General Rules (GR) 1, 12.4, and 24, and the Court having approved the suggested amendments for publication;

Now, therefore, it is hereby

ORDERED:

(a) That pursuant to the provisions of GR 9(g), the suggested amendments as attached hereto are to be published for comment in the Washington Reports, Washington Register, Washington State Bar Association and Administrative Office of the Court's websites in January 2023.

(b) The purpose statement as required by GR 9(e), is published solely for the information of the Bench, Bar and other interested parties.

(c) Comments are to be submitted to the Clerk of the Supreme Court by either U.S. Mail or Internet E-Mail by no later than April 30, 2023. Comments may be sent to the following addresses: P.O. Box 40929, Olympia, Washington 98504-0929, or [supreme@courts.wa.gov](mailto:supreme@courts.wa.gov). Comments submitted by e-mail message must be limited to 1500 words.

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ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL RULES (GR) 1,  
12.4, AND 24

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 5th day of January, 2023.

For the Court

  
González, C.J.

# GR 9 COVER SHEET

## Suggested Amendments GENERAL RULES (GR) Rules 1, 12.4, 24

Submitted by the Washington State Bar Association

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**A. Name of Proponent:**

Washington State Bar Association  
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**B. Spokesperson:**

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**C. Purpose:**

The primary purposes of the suggested amendments to the General Rules (GR) are to update the classification of the rules of general application, formally adopt and remove temporary status of the Rules for Enforcement of Limited License Legal Technician Conduct (ELLLTC), and to update rule citations as needed due to prior rule amendments.

The suggested amendments were presented at the September 2022 WSBA Board of Governors meeting where the Board of Governors voted unanimously to approve the suggested amendments and to submit them to the Washington Supreme Court.

### Formal Adoption of LLLT Disciplinary Procedural Rules

The Rules for Enforcement of Limited License Legal Technician Conduct (ELLLTC) were implemented as an interim solution until new disciplinary procedural rules could be drafted for either LLLTs only or all licensed legal professionals combined. The ELLLTC are not published on the Court's website as they are currently classified as a temporary solution. As there are now no plans to draft new disciplinary procedural rules for LLLTs to replace the ELLLTC, the ELLLTC should be formally adopted and published for clarity and transparency and to promote consistency with the other disciplinary procedural rules (i.e., ELC and ELPOC). See Attachment No. 1 for the Court's order approving the interim adoption of the ELLLTC.

### GR 1 Part I: Listing New Bodies of Rules in Rules of General Application.

GR 1 provides the classification system for court rules. Part I of GR 1 lists the bodies of rules included in the Rules of General Application. The suggested amendments to GR 1 Part I, would add to the Rules of General Application, the following bodies of rules:

- Limited Practice Officer Rules of Professional Conduct LPORPC
- Limited License Legal Technician Rules of Professional Conduct LLLT RPC
- Rules for Enforcement of Limited Practice Officer Conduct ELPOC
- Rules for Enforcement of Limited License Legal Technician Conduct ELLLTC

Currently, these bodies of rules are under APR 12, in the cases of the LPORPC and ELPOC, or, under APR 28 in the case of the LLLT RPC. As discussed above, the Court is not publishing the ELLLTC.

Updating GR 12.4 and 24.

The remaining suggested amendments to the GR correct and update rule citations which are needed due to prior rule amendments.

**D. Hearing:** A hearing is not requested.

**E. Expedited Consideration:** Expedited consideration is not requested.

**F. Supporting Material:**

1. Order Approving Interim Adoption of ELLLTC, Dated January 17, 2016  
[NOTE: This document could not be reproduced by Rules Committee Staff and is available upon request.]

Filed  
Washington State Supreme Court  
JAN - 7 2016  
Ronald R. Carpenter  
Clerk

# THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF — ENFORCEMENT )  
OF LIMITED LICENSE LEGAL TECHNICIAN )  
CONDUCT )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

## ORDER

NO. 25700-A- 1136

The Washington State Limited License Legal Technician Board having recommended the interim adoption of the attached Enforcement of Limited License Legal Technician Conduct in order to establish a system for the enforcement of the Limited License Legal Technician Rules of Professional Conduct, and the Court having determined that the proposed system will aid in the prompt and orderly administration of justice and further determined the need for expedited adoption;

Now, therefore, it is hereby

ORDERED:

That the system of Enforcement of Limited License Legal Technician Conduct as attached hereto is approved pursuant to the provisions of Appendix APR 28 Regulation 20.

(c) That the attached system of Enforcement of Limited License Legal Technician Conduct is approved and shall be effective as of the signing of this order by the Court.

729/121

ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF — ENFORCEMENT OF LIMITED LICENSE LEGAL TECHNICIAN  
CONDUCT

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 7<sup>th</sup> day of January 2016.

[Handwritten Signature]

Madsen, C.J.

[Handwritten Signature]

Wiggins, J.

Fairhurst, J.

Geoff McCall, J.

Stephens, J.

[Handwritten Signature]

**SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL RULES**

1 **GR 1 CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM FOR COURT RULES**

2 **Part I: Rules of General Application**

3 General Rules GR

4 Code of Judicial Conduct CJC

5 Discipline Rules for Judges DRJ

6 Board for Judicial Administration Rules BJAR

7 Admission ~~to~~ and Practice Rules APR

8 Rules of Professional Conduct RPC

9 Limited Practice Officer Rules of Professional Conduct LPORPC

10 Limited License Legal Technician Rules of Professional Conduct LLLT RPC

11 Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct ELC

12 Rules for Enforcement of Limited Practice Officer Conduct ELPOC

13 Rules for Enforcement of Limited License Legal Technician Conduct ELLLTC

14 Judicial Information System Committee Rules JISCR

15 Rules of Evidence ER

16 **Part II – V** Unchanged.

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18 **GR 12.4 WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION ACCESS TO RECORDS**

19 **(a) – (c)** Unchanged.

20 **(d) Bar Records—Right of Access.**

21 (1) The Bar shall make available for inspection and copying all Bar records, unless the record  
22 falls within the specific exemptions of this rule, or any other state statute (including the Public  
23 Records Act, chapter 42, 56 RCW) or federal statute or rule as they would be applied to a public  
24 agency, or is made confidential by the Rules of Professional Conduct, the LLLT Rules of  
25 Professional Conduct, the LPO Rules of Professional Conduct, the Rules for-Enforcement of

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**SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL RULES**

1 Lawyer Conduct, the Admission to and Practice Rules and associated regulations, the Rules for  
2 Enforcement of Limited Practice Officer Conduct, the Rules for Enforcement of Limited  
3 License Legal Technician Conduct, General Rule 25, court orders or protective orders issued  
4 under those rules, or any other state or federal statute or rule. To the extent required to prevent  
5 an unreasonable invasion of personal privacy interests or threat to safety or by the above-  
6 referenced rules, statutes, or orders, the Bar shall delete identifying details in a manner  
7 consistent with those rules, statutes, or orders when it makes available or publishes any Bar  
8 record; however, in each case, the justification for the deletion shall be explained in writing.

9 (2) Unchanged.

10 (e) – (j) Unchanged.

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12 **GR 24 DEFINITION OF THE PRACTICE OF LAW**

13 (a) Unchanged.

14 (b) **Exceptions and Exclusions:** Whether or not they constitute the practice of law, the  
15 following are permitted:

16 (1) Practicing law authorized by a limited license to practice law pursuant to Admission to  
17 and Practice Rules 3(g) (pro bono admission), 8 (special-limited admissions for: a particular  
18 purpose or action or proceeding; indigent representation; educational purposes; emeritus  
19 membership; house counsel), 9 (licensed legal interns), 12 (limited practice for closing officers),  
20 or 14 (limited practice for foreign law consultants), or 28 (limited license legal technicians).

21 (2) – (11) Unchanged.

22 (c) – (f) Unchanged.

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