

**Practice Book Amendments  
Superior Court Rules**

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**June 23, 2026**



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## NOTICE

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### Superior Court

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On June 11, 2026, the judges of the Superior Court adopted the amendments to the Practice Book contained in this Notice. Those amendments become effective on January 1, 2027, except that the revisions to Section 4-2 and the adoption of new Sections 4-9 and 31a-18A become effective upon publication in this Connecticut Law Journal on June 23, 2026.

Attest:

Lori Petruzzelli

Counsel to the Rules Committee

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### INTRODUCTION

Contained herein are amendments to the Superior Court Rules. These amendments are indicated by bold brackets for deletions and underlines for added language. The designation "NEW" is printed with the title of each new rule. This material should be used as a supplement to the Practice Book until the next edition becomes available.

The commentaries to the Superior Court Rules are for informational purposes only.

Rules Committee of the  
Superior Court

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**Sec. 2-36. Action by Statewide Grievance Committee on Request for Review**

Within sixty days of the expiration of the thirty day period for the filing of a request for review under Section 2-35 (k), or, with regard to grievance complaints filed on or after January 1, 2004, within sixty days of the expiration of the fourteen day period for the filing of a response by disciplinary counsel to a request for review under that section, the Statewide Grievance Committee shall issue a written decision affirming the decision of the reviewing committee, dismissing the complaint, imposing sanctions and conditions as authorized by Section 2-37, directing the disciplinary counsel to file a presentment against the respondent in the Superior Court or referring the complaint to the same or a different reviewing committee for further investigation and a decision. Before issuing its decision, the Statewide Grievance Committee may, in its discretion, request oral argument. The Statewide Grievance Committee shall forward a copy of its decision to the complainant, the disciplinary counsel, the respondent, the reviewing committee and the grievance panel which investigated the complaint. The decision shall be a matter of public record. A decision of the Statewide Grievance Committee shall be issued only if the respondent has timely filed a request for review under Section 2-35 (k). A respondent may not appeal to the Superior Court a decision of the Statewide Grievance Committee affirming the reviewing committee's decision directing the disciplinary counsel to file a presentment against the respondent, except for presentments ordered pursuant to Section 2-47 (d).

COMMENTARY: The revisions to this section clarify the procedure for taking an appeal from an order of presentment by the Statewide Grievance Committee under Section 2-47 (d), in light of the Connecticut Supreme Court's recent decision in the matter of *Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel v. Vaccaro*, 353 Conn. 793, 347 A.3d 856 (2025). The last sentence of this section has been revised to carve out an exception for presentments ordered pursuant to Section 2-47 (d).

**Sec. 2-38. Appeal from Decision of Statewide Grievance Committee or Reviewing Committee Imposing Sanctions or Conditions**

(a) A respondent may appeal to the Superior Court a decision by the Statewide Grievance Committee or a reviewing committee imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent, in accordance with Section 2-37 (a), or a presentment ordered pursuant to Section 2-47 (d). A respondent may not appeal a decision by a reviewing committee [imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent] under this section if the respondent has not timely requested a review of the decision by the Statewide Grievance Committee under Section 2-35 (k). Within thirty days from the issuance, pursuant to Section 2-36, of the decision of the Statewide Grievance Committee, the respondent shall: (1) file the appeal with the clerk of the Superior Court for the judicial district of Hartford and (2) mail a copy of the appeal by certified mail, return receipt requested or with electronic delivery confirmation, to the Office of the Statewide Bar Counsel as agent for the Statewide Grievance Committee and to the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel.

(b) Enforcement of a final decision imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent pursuant to Section 2-35 (i) or Section 2-35 (m), including the publication of the notice of a reprimand in accordance with Section 2-54, shall be stayed for thirty days from the issuance to the parties of such decision. If within that period the respondent files with the Statewide Grievance Committee a request for review of the reviewing committee's decision, the stay shall remain in effect for thirty days from the issuance by the Statewide Grievance Committee of its final decision pursuant to Section 2-36. If the respondent timely commences an appeal pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, such stay shall remain in full force and effect until the conclusion of all proceedings, including all appeals, relating to the decision imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent. If at the conclusion of all proceedings, the decision imposing sanctions or conditions against

the respondent is rescinded, the complaint shall be deemed dismissed as of the date of the decision imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent. An application to terminate the stay may be made to the court and shall be granted if the court is of the opinion that the appeal is taken only for delay or that the due administration of justice requires that the stay be terminated.

(c) Within thirty days after the service of the appeal, or within such further time as may be allowed by the court, the statewide bar counsel shall transmit to the reviewing court a certified copy of the entire record of the proceeding appealed from, which shall include the grievance panel's record in the case, as defined in Section 2-32 (i), and a copy of the Statewide Grievance Committee's record or the reviewing committee's record in the case, which shall include a transcript of any testimony heard by it or by a reviewing committee which is required by rule to be on the record, any decision by the reviewing committee in the case, any requests filed pursuant to Section 2-35 (k) of this section, and a copy of the Statewide Grievance Committee's decision on the request for review. By stipulation of all parties to such appeal proceedings, the record may be shortened. The court may require or permit subsequent corrections or additions to the record.

(d) The appeal shall be conducted by the court without a jury and shall be confined to the record. If alleged irregularities in procedure before the Statewide Grievance Committee or reviewing committee are not shown in the record, proof limited thereto may be taken in the court. The court, upon request, shall hear oral argument.

(e) The respondent shall file a brief within thirty days after the filing of the record by the statewide bar counsel. The disciplinary counsel shall file his or her brief within thirty days of the filing of the respondent's brief. Unless permission is given by the court for good cause shown, briefs shall not exceed thirty-five pages.

(f) Upon appeal, the court shall not substitute its judgment for that of the Statewide Grievance Committee or reviewing committee as to the weight of the evidence on questions of fact. The court shall affirm the decision of the committee unless the court finds that substantial rights of the respondent have been prejudiced because the committee's findings, inferences, conclusions, or decisions are: (1) in violation of constitutional provisions, rules of practice or statutory provisions; (2) in excess of the authority of the committee; (3) made upon unlawful procedure; (4) affected by other error of law; (5) clearly erroneous in view of the reliable, probative, and substantial evidence on the whole record; or (6) arbitrary or capricious or characterized by abuse of discretion or clearly unwarranted exercise of discretion. If the court finds such prejudice, it shall sustain the appeal and, if appropriate, rescind the action of the Statewide Grievance Committee or take such other action as may be necessary. For purposes of further appeal, the action taken by the Superior Court hereunder is a final judgment.

(g) In all appeals taken under this section, costs may be taxed in favor of the Statewide Grievance Committee in the same manner, and to the same extent, that costs are allowed in judgments rendered by the Superior Court. No costs shall be taxed against the Statewide Grievance Committee, except that the court may, in its discretion, award to the respondent reasonable fees and expenses if the court determines that the action of the committee was undertaken without any substantial justification. "Reasonable fees and expenses" means any expenses not in excess of \$7500 which the court finds were reasonably incurred in opposing the committee's action, including court costs, expenses incurred in administrative proceedings, attorney's fees, witness fees of all necessary witnesses, and such other expenses as were reasonably incurred.

COMMENTARY: The revisions to this section clarify the procedure for taking an appeal from an order of presentment by the Statewide Grievance Committee under Section 2-47 (d), in light of the Connecticut Supreme Court's recent decision in the matter of *Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel v. Vaccaro*, 353 Conn. 793, 347 A.3d 856 (2025).

The first sentence of subsection (a) of this section has been revised, adding language to explicitly include presentment orders under Section 2-47 (d) within the ambit of this section. Revisions have also been made to the second sentence of subsection (a) so that it remains consistent with the first sentence of subsection (a).

**Sec. 2-47. Presentments and Unauthorized Practice of Law Petitions**

(a) Presentment of attorneys for misconduct, whether or not the misconduct occurred in the actual presence of the court, shall be made by written complaint of the disciplinary counsel. Service of the complaint shall be made as in civil actions. Any interim proceedings to the contrary notwithstanding, a hearing on the merits of the complaint shall be held within sixty days of the date the complaint was filed with the court. At such hearing, the respondent shall have the right to be heard in his or her own defense and by witnesses and counsel. After such hearing the court shall render a judgment dismissing the complaint or imposing discipline as follows: reprimand, suspension for a period of time, disbarment or such other discipline as the court deems appropriate. This may include conditions to be fulfilled by the attorney before he or she may apply for readmission or reinstatement. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, such complaints shall be prosecuted by the disciplinary counsel or an attorney appointed pursuant to Section 2-48.

(b) The sole issue to be determined in a disciplinary proceeding predicated upon conviction of a felony, any larceny or crime for which the lawyer is sentenced to a term of incarceration or for which a suspended period of incarceration is imposed shall be the extent of the final discipline to be imposed.

(c) A petition to restrain any person from engaging in the unauthorized practice of law not occurring in the actual presence of the court may be made by written complaint to the Superior Court in the judicial district where such violation occurs. When offenses have been committed by the same person in more than one judicial district, presentment

for all offenses may be made in any one of such judicial districts. Such complaint may be prosecuted by the state's attorney, by the disciplinary counsel, or by any member of the bar by direction of the court. Upon the filing of such complaint, a rule to show cause shall issue to the defendant, who may make any proper answer within twenty days from the return of the rule and who shall have the right to be heard as soon as practicable, and upon such hearing the court shall make such lawful orders as it may deem just. Such complaints shall be proceeded with as civil actions.

(d) (1) If a determination is made by the Statewide Grievance Committee or a reviewing committee that a respondent is guilty of misconduct and such misconduct does not otherwise warrant a presentment to the Superior Court, but the respondent has been disciplined pursuant to these rules by the Statewide Grievance Committee, a reviewing committee or the court at least three times pursuant to complaints filed within the five year period preceding the date of the filing of the grievance complaint that gave rise to such finding of misconduct in the instant case, the Statewide Grievance Committee or the reviewing committee shall direct the disciplinary counsel to file a presentment against the respondent in the Superior Court. Service of the matter shall be made as in civil actions. The Statewide Grievance Committee or the reviewing committee shall file with the court the record in the matter and a copy of the prior discipline issued against the respondent within such five year period. The sole issue to be determined by the court upon the presentment shall be the appropriate action to take as a result of the nature of the misconduct in the instant case and the cumulative discipline issued concerning the respondent within such five year period. Such action shall be in the form of a judgment dismissing the complaint or imposing discipline as follows: reprimand, suspension for a period of time, disbarment or such other discipline as the court deems appropriate. This may include conditions to be fulfilled by the

respondent before he or she may apply for readmission or reinstatement. This subsection shall apply to all findings of misconduct issued from the day of enactment forward and the determination of presentment shall consider all discipline pursuant to complaints filed within the five year period preceding the date of the filing of the grievance complaint that gave rise to the finding of misconduct even if they predate the effective date of these rules.

(2) If the respondent has appealed the issuance of a finding of misconduct, including any subsidiary ruling made in connection with a misconduct finding, made by the Statewide Grievance Committee or the reviewing committee pursuant to Section 2-38 (a), the court shall first adjudicate and decide that appeal in accordance with the procedures set forth in subsections (d) through (f) of Section 2-38. In the event the court denies the respondent's appeal [of the finding of misconduct], the court shall then adjudicate the presentment brought under this section. In no event shall the court review the merits of the matters for which the prior reprimands were issued against the respondent.

(e) No entry fee shall be required for the filing of any complaint pursuant to this section.

COMMENTARY: The revisions to this section clarify the procedure for taking an appeal from an order of presentment by the Statewide Grievance Committee under Section 2-47 (d), in light of the Connecticut Supreme Court's recent decision in the matter of *Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel v. Vaccaro*, 353 Conn. 793, 347 A.3d 856 (2025). The first sentence of subsection (d) (2) has been revised to reference specifically the procedure under Section 2-38 (a) and to include language directly from *Vaccaro*; see *id.*, 820; to include subsidiary rulings. The second sentence of subsection (d) (2) has been revised for consistency.

### **(NEW) Sec. 3-4A. —Notice of Preferred Pronouns/Salutations**

Upon the filing of a civil or family action, or at any point during the pendency of a civil, criminal, family, juvenile, or support matter, an attorney or party may file a Notice of Preferred Pronouns/Salutations (JD-CL-169). The filer may indicate preferred salutations (e.g., Mr., Ms., or Mx.), and/or personal pronouns (e.g., he/him/his, she/her/hers, or they/them/theirs), as a designated form of address. Additionally, any

party, attorney, or witness may advise the judicial authority of an individual's preferred pronouns or salutation during any court proceeding.

When a Notice of Preferred Pronouns/Salutations is brought to the attention of the judicial authority, or the judicial authority is otherwise alerted to an individual's preferred pronouns or salutation during any court proceeding, the judicial authority shall endeavor to use the individual's name, the designated salutation or personal pronouns, or other respectful means that are consistent with the individual's designated salutation and personal pronouns when addressing, referring to, or identifying the individual party or attorney.

COMMENTARY: The courts serve all members of the public, and judges are required to discharge their duties fairly and impartially, without bias or prejudice, and in a manner that is courteous to litigants, lawyers, and others with whom judges deal in an official capacity. Such courtesy includes treating individuals in a manner that is objectively respectful of gender identity. This rule is intended to avoid the misgendering of litigants and attorneys by the judicial authority by directing the judicial authority to use salutations and personal pronouns expressly designated by an attorney or party in the filed Notice of Preferred Pronouns/Salutations or otherwise communicated to the judicial authority during any court proceeding. This rule is intended to be directory rather than mandatory, and the rule is not intended to prohibit the inadvertent or mistaken misgendering of an individual by the judicial authority.

#### **Sec. 4-2. Signing of Pleading**

(a) Every pleading and other paper of a party represented by an attorney shall be signed by at least one attorney of record in the attorney's individual name. A party who is not represented by an attorney shall sign his or her pleadings and other papers. The name of the attorney or party who signs such document shall be legibly typed or printed beneath the signature.

(b) The signing of any pleading, motion, objection or request shall constitute a certificate that the signer has read such document, that to the best of the signer's knowledge, information and belief there is good ground to support it, that it is not interposed for delay, and that the signer has complied with the requirements of Section 4-7 regarding personal identifying information and Section 4-9 regarding generative AI. Each pleading and every other court-filed document signed by an attorney or party shall set forth the signer's telephone number and mailing address.

(c) An attorney may assist a client in preparing a pleading, motion or other document to be signed and filed in court by the client. In such cases, the attorney shall insert the notation “prepared with assistance of counsel” on any pleading, motion or document prepared by the attorney. The attorney is not required to sign the pleading, motion or document and the filing of such a pleading, motion or document shall not constitute an appearance by the attorney.

COMMENTARY: The revisions to subsection (b) should be read together with new Section 4-9, Generative Artificial Intelligence (Generative AI) Compliance, which cautions persons who file documents with the court about the risks of using generative AI and requires them to verify independently all citations, legal authorities and evidence produced by such technology.

**(NEW) Sec. 4-9. Generative Artificial Intelligence (“Generative AI”) Compliance**

(a) “Generative AI” means: any machine-learning model/application that can create original content—such as text, images, video, audio or software code—in response to a prompt or request, including but not limited to, ChatGPT, Co-Counsel, Google Bard, Neeva, Harvey, Ironclad, Bing, DeepSeek, Grok, and similar technology.

(b) Due to the risk that generative AI can create inaccurate factual and legal information, including, without limitation, faulty citations to legal authority, fabricated quotations from such authority, and inaccurate or fabricated evidence, any person who uses generative AI in the creation or editing of any document filed with the court shall independently verify all citations, legal authorities or evidence produced by generative AI.

The failure to do so may result in court-imposed sanctions, including, without limitation, the entry of a nonsuit or default judgment.

(c) Any person who files documents with the court represents that they have reviewed this rule and, by filing the document, represents that they have made good faith, diligent efforts to ensure compliance with their obligations under this rule, all other rules of practice, the Rules of Professional Conduct, and any applicable provision of Connecticut law regarding the use of or reliance on generative AI.

(d) The responsibility for complying with this rule rests solely with the person filing the document. The court or the clerk of the court is not required to review any filed document for compliance with this rule.

COMMENTARY: Although generative AI, if used properly, may offer certain efficiencies in drafting legal documents, this new rule cautions persons who file documents with the court about the inherent risks of this technology and requires them to verify independently all citations, legal authorities and evidence produced by generative AI. This new rule should be read together with the revisions to Section 4-2 (b) that expressly state that the signer of any pleading, motion, objection or request certifies that they have complied with the generative AI obligations under this rule.

### **Sec. 7-19. Issuing Subpoenas for Witnesses on Behalf of Self-Represented Litigants**

(a) Self-represented litigants seeking to compel the attendance of necessary witnesses in connection with the hearing of any matter shall file an application to have the clerk of the court issue subpoenas for that purpose. The application shall include a summary of the expected testimony of each proposed witness so that the court may determine the relevance of the testimony. The clerk, after verifying the scheduling of the matter, shall present the application to the judge before whom the matter is scheduled for hearing, or the administrative judge or any judge designated by the administrative judge if the matter has not been scheduled before a specific judge, which judge shall review the application.

(b) The reviewing judge may act on the application *ex parte* and may direct or deny the issuance of subpoenas as such judge deems warranted under the circumstances, keeping in mind the nature of the scheduled hearing and future opportunities for examination of witnesses, as may be appropriate. If an application is granted *ex parte*, in whole or in part, any party may file a motion for protective order or motion to quash, as appropriate. If an application is denied *ex parte*, in whole or in part, the applicant may request a hearing which shall be scheduled by the court. The reviewing judge may order that an application acted upon *ex parte* be placed in the official court file, whether or not a hearing is requested.

(c) If the reviewing judge does not act on the application ex parte, such judge shall direct that the application be placed in the official court file to allow any party to file an objection, which objection will be filed by a date to be set by the reviewing judge. Having provided an opportunity for any party to object, the reviewing judge may direct or deny the issuance of subpoenas as such judge deems warranted under the circumstances, keeping in mind the nature of the scheduled hearing and future opportunities for examination of witnesses, as may be appropriate.

(d) Any party or nonparty to whom a subpoena is directed pursuant to this rule may file a motion to quash or a motion for protective order as appropriate.

(e) Self-represented litigants seeking to compel the attendance of witnesses in connection with a deposition shall do so consistent with Sections 13-26 through 13-28, 25-31, 34a-20, and 40-44.

COMMENTARY: The revisions to this section clarify that a self-represented litigant may file an application with the clerk of the court to issue subpoenas for depositions. This section should be read together with the requirements of Sections 13-26 through 13-28, 25-31, 34a-20, and 40-44, concerning depositions in civil, family, juvenile and criminal matters, as may be applicable.

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CIVIL RULES

### **Sec. 13-4. —Experts**

(a) A party shall disclose each person who may be called by that party to testify as an expert witness at trial, and all documents that may be offered in evidence in lieu of such expert testimony, in accordance with this section. The requirements of Section 13-15 shall apply to disclosures made under this section.

(b) A party shall file with the court and serve upon counsel a disclosure of expert witnesses which identifies the name, address and employer of each person who may be called by that party to testify as an expert witness at trial, whether through live testimony or by deposition. In addition, the disclosure shall include the following information:

(1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the field of expertise and the subject matter on which the witness is expected to offer expert testimony; the expert opinions to which the witness is expected to testify; the substance of the grounds for each such expert opinion; and the written report of the expert witness, if any. The report shall not be filed with the court. Disclosure of the information required under this subsection may be made by making reference in the disclosure to the written report of the expert witness containing such information.

(2) If the witness to be disclosed hereunder is a health care provider who rendered care or treatment to the plaintiff, and the opinions to be offered hereunder are based upon that provider's care or treatment, then the disclosure obligations under this section may be satisfied by disclosure to the parties of the medical records and reports of such care or treatment. A witness disclosed under this subsection shall be permitted to offer expert opinion testimony at trial as to any opinion as to which fair notice is given in the disclosed medical records or reports. Expert testimony regarding any opinion as to which fair notice is not given in the disclosed medical records or reports must be disclosed in accordance with subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section. The parties shall not file the disclosed medical records or disclosed medical reports with the court.

(3) Except for an expert witness who is a health care provider who rendered care or treatment to the plaintiff, or unless otherwise ordered by the judicial authority or agreed upon by the parties, the party disclosing an expert witness shall, upon the request of an opposing party, produce to all other parties all materials obtained, created and/or relied upon by the expert in connection with his or her opinions in the case within fourteen days prior to that expert's deposition or within such other time frame determined in accordance with the Schedule for Expert Discovery prepared pursuant to subsection [(g)] (h) of this section. If any such materials have already been produced to the other parties in

the case, then a list of such materials, made with sufficient particularity that the materials can be easily identified by the parties, shall satisfy the production requirement hereunder with respect to those materials. If an expert witness otherwise subject to this subsection is not being compensated in that capacity by or on behalf of the disclosing party, then that party may give written notice of that fact in satisfaction of the obligations imposed by this subsection. If such notice is provided, then it shall be the duty of the party seeking to depose such expert witness to obtain the production of the requested materials by subpoena or other lawful means.

(4) Nothing in this section shall prohibit any witness disclosed hereunder from offering nonexpert testimony at trial.

(c) (1) Unless otherwise ordered by the judicial authority upon motion, a party may take the deposition of any expert witness disclosed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section in the manner prescribed in Section 13-26 et seq. governing deposition procedure generally. Nothing contained in subsection (b) of this section shall impair the right of any party from exercising that party's rights under the rules of practice to subpoena or to request production of any materials, to the extent otherwise discoverable, in addition to those produced under subsection (b) of this section, in connection with the deposition of any expert witness, nor shall anything contained herein impair the right of a party to raise any objections to any request for production of documents sought hereunder to the extent that a claim of privilege exists.

(2) Unless otherwise ordered by the judicial authority for good cause shown, or agreed upon by the parties, the fees and expenses of the expert witness for any such deposition, excluding preparation time, shall be paid by the party or parties taking the deposition. Unless otherwise ordered, the fees and expenses hereunder shall include only (A) a reasonable fee for the time of the witness to attend the deposition itself and the witness' travel time to and from the place of deposition; and

(B) the reasonable expenses actually incurred for travel to and from the place of deposition and lodging, if necessary. If the parties are unable to agree on the fees and expenses due under this subsection, the amount shall be set by the judicial authority, upon motion.

(d) (1) A party shall file with the court a list of all documents or records that the party expects to submit in evidence pursuant to any statute or rule permitting admissibility of documentary evidence in lieu of the live testimony of an expert witness. The list filed hereunder shall identify such documents or records with sufficient particularity that they shall be easily identified by the other parties. The parties shall not file with the court a copy of the documents or records on such list.

(2) Unless otherwise ordered by the judicial authority upon motion, a party may take the deposition of any expert witness whose records are disclosed pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section in the manner prescribed in Section 13-26 et seq. governing deposition procedure generally. Nothing contained in subsection (d) of this section shall impair the right of any party from exercising that party's rights under the rules of practice to subpoena or to request production of any materials, to the extent otherwise discoverable, in addition to those produced under subsection (d), in connection with the deposition of any expert witness.

(3) Unless otherwise ordered by the judicial authority for good cause shown, or agreed upon by the parties, the fees and expenses of the expert witness for any such deposition, excluding preparation time, shall be paid by the party or parties taking the deposition. Unless otherwise ordered, the fees and expenses hereunder shall include only (A) a reasonable fee for the time of the witness to attend the deposition itself and the witness' travel time to and from the place of deposition; and (B) the reasonable expenses actually incurred for travel to and from the place of deposition and lodging, if necessary. If the parties are unable to agree on the fees and expenses due under this subsection, the amount shall be set by the judicial authority, upon motion.

(e) If any party expects to call as an expert witness at trial any person previously disclosed by any other party under subsection (b) hereof, the newly disclosing party shall file a notice of disclosure: (1) stating that the party adopts all or a specified part of the expert disclosure already on file; and (2) disclosing any other expert opinions to which the witness is expected to testify and the substance of the grounds for any such expert opinion. Such notice shall be filed within the time parameters set forth in subsection ~~[(g)]~~ (h).

(f) Unless otherwise ordered by the judicial authority for good cause shown, a party shall not contact an expert retained and disclosed by another party under subsection (b) without written consent of the party who retained and disclosed the expert and written notice to all other parties. This provision shall not apply to a court-appointed evaluator or expert.

~~[(f)]~~ (g) A party may discover facts known or opinions held by an expert who had been retained or specially employed by another party in anticipation of litigation or preparation for trial and who is not expected to be called as a witness at trial only as provided in Section 13-11 or upon a showing of exceptional circumstances under which it is impracticable for the party seeking discovery to obtain facts or opinions on the same subject by other means.

~~[(g)]~~ (h) Unless otherwise ordered by the judicial authority, or otherwise agreed by the parties, the following schedule shall govern the expert discovery required under subsections (b), (c), (d) and (e) of this section.

(1) Within 120 days after the return date of any civil action, or at such other time as the parties may agree or as the court may order, the parties shall submit to the court for its approval a proposed Schedule for Expert Discovery, which, upon approval by the court, shall govern the timing of expert discovery in the case. This schedule shall be submitted on a “Schedule for Expert Discovery” form prescribed by the Office of the Chief Court Administrator. The deadlines proposed by the parties

shall be realistic and reasonable, taking into account the nature and relative complexity of the case, the need for predicate discovery and the estimated time until the case may be exposed for trial. If the parties are unable to agree on discovery deadlines, they shall so indicate on the proposed Schedule for Expert Discovery, in which event the court shall convene a scheduling conference to set those deadlines.

(2) If a party is added or appears in a case after the proposed Schedule for Expert Discovery is filed, then an amended proposed Schedule for Expert Discovery shall be prepared and filed for approval by the court within sixty days after such new party appears, or at such other time as the court may order.

(3) Unless otherwise ordered by the court, disclosure of any expert witness under subsection (e) hereof shall be made within thirty days of the event giving rise to the need for that party to adopt the expert disclosure as its own (e.g., the withdrawal or dismissal of the party originally disclosing the expert).

(4) The parties, by agreement, may modify the approved Schedule for Expert Discovery or any other time limitation under this section so long as the modifications do not interfere with an assigned trial date. A party who wishes to modify the approved Schedule for Expert Discovery or other time limitation under this section without agreement of the parties may file a motion for modification with the court stating the reasons therefor. Said motion shall be granted if: (A) the requested modification will not cause undue prejudice to any other party; (B) the requested modification will not cause undue interference with the trial schedule in the case; and (C) the need for the requested modification was not caused by bad faith delay of disclosure by the party seeking modification.

[(h)] (i) A judicial authority may, after a hearing, impose sanctions on a party for failure to comply with the requirements of this section. An order precluding the testimony of an expert witness may be entered

only upon a finding that: (1) the sanction of preclusion, including any consequence thereof on the sanctioned party's ability to prosecute or to defend the case, is proportional to the noncompliance at issue, and (2) the noncompliance at issue cannot adequately be addressed by a less severe sanction or combination of sanctions.

[(i)] (j) The revisions to this rule adopted by the judges of the Superior Court in June, 2008, effective on January 1, 2009, and the revisions to this rule adopted by the judges of the Superior Court in June, 2009, and March, 2010, shall apply to cases commenced on or after January 1, 2009. The version of this rule in effect on December 31, 2008, shall apply to cases commenced on or before that date.

COMMENTARY: In *Epright v. Liberty Mutual Ins. Co.*, 349 Conn. 679, 694 n.9, 321A.3d 354 (2024) (holding that Practice Book § 13-4 does not prohibit ex parte communications with another party's disclosed expert witness) our Supreme Court encouraged the Rules Committee to "evaluate the propriety of ex parte communications with an opposing party's disclosed expert witness and to determine whether an amendment to the current rule is warranted." The revisions to this section, especially the new language in subsection (f), were the result of that evaluation and make clear that a party is prohibited from contacting an expert retained and disclosed by another party without written consent and notice to all parties, unless otherwise ordered by the judicial authority. This amendment is not intended to change the current rules governing ex parte communications with court-appointed evaluators and/or experts that are governed by other provisions in the rules of practice.

### **Sec. 13-7. —Answers to Interrogatories**

(a) Any such interrogatories shall be answered under oath by the party to whom directed and such answers shall not be filed with the court but shall be served within sixty days after the date of certification of service, in accordance with Sections 10-12 through 10-17, of the interrogatories or, if applicable, the notice of interrogatories on the answering party, within fifteen days of such certification in residential summary process matters under General Statutes § 47a-23 et seq. or within such shorter or longer time as the judicial authority may allow, unless:

- (1) Counsel file with the court a written stipulation extending the time within which answers or objections may be served; or
- (2) Upon motion, the judicial authority allows a longer time; or
- (3) Objections to the interrogatories and the reasons therefor are filed

and served within the sixty day period or within the fifteen day period in residential summary process matters.

(b) All answers to interrogatories shall: (1) repeat immediately before each answer the interrogatory being answered; and (2) be signed by the person making them.

(c) A party objecting to one or more interrogatories shall file an objection in accordance with Section 13-8.

(d) Objection by a party to certain of the interrogatories directed to such party shall not relieve that party of the obligation to answer the interrogatories to which he or she has not objected within the sixty day period.

(e) The party serving interrogatories or the notice of interrogatories may move for an order under Section 13-14 with respect to any failure to answer.

COMMENTARY: The revisions to this section shorten the time to answer or object to written interrogatories in residential summary process matters from sixty days to fifteen days to account for the expedited pleading schedule under General Statutes § 47a-26c.

**Sec. 13-10. —Responses to Requests for Production; Objections**

(a) The party to whom the request is directed or such party's attorney shall serve a written response, which may be in electronic format, within sixty days after the date of certification of service, in accordance with Sections 10-12 through 10-17, of the request or, if applicable, the notice of requests for production on the responding party, within fifteen days of such certification in residential summary process matters under General Statutes § 47a-23 et seq. or within such shorter or longer time as the judicial authority may allow, unless: (1) counsel and/or self-represented parties file with the court a written stipulation extending the time within which responses may be served; or (2) upon motion, the court allows a longer time; or (3) objections to the requests for production and the reasons therefor are filed and served within the sixty day period or within the fifteen day period in residential summary process matters.

(b) All responses: (1) shall repeat immediately before the response the request for production being responded to; and (2) shall state with respect to each item or category that inspection and related activities will be permitted as requested, unless the request or any part thereof is objected to.

(c) Where a request calling for submission of copies of documents is not objected to, the party responding to the request shall produce those copies with the response served upon all parties.

(d) Objection by a party to certain parts of a request shall not relieve that party of the obligation to respond to those portions to which that party has not objected within the sixty day period.

(e) A party objecting to one or more of the requests for production shall file an objection in accordance with subsection (f) of this section.

(f) A party who objects to any request or portion of a request shall: (1) set forth the request objected to; (2) specifically state the reasons for the objection; and (3) state whether any responsive materials are being withheld on the basis of the stated objection. Objections shall be governed by the provisions of Sections 13-2 through 13-5, signed by the attorney or self-represented party making them and filed with the court.

(g) To the extent a party withholds any responsive material based on an assertion of a claim of privilege or work product protection, the party must file an objection in compliance with the provisions of subsection (f) of this section and comply with the provisions set forth in subsection (d) of Section 13-3.

(h) No objection may be filed with respect to requests for production set forth in Forms 204, 205, 206, 209, 211, 215, 216, 219, 222 and/or 223 of the rules of practice for use in connection with Section 13-9.

(i) No objection to any request for production shall be placed on the short calendar list until an affidavit by counsel or self-represented parties is filed certifying that they have made good faith attempts to resolve the objection and that counsel and/or self-represented parties have been

unable to reach an agreement. The affidavit shall set forth: (1) the date of the objection; (2) the name of the party who filed the objection and to whom the objection was addressed; (3) the date, time and place of any conference held to resolve the differences; and (4) the names of all conference participants. If no conference has been held, the affidavit shall also set forth the reasons for the failure to hold such a conference.

(j) If an objection to any part of a request for production is overruled, the objecting party shall comply with the request at a time set by the judicial authority.

(k) The party serving the request or the notice of request for production may move for an order under Section 13-14 with respect to any failure to respond by the party to whom the request or notice is addressed.

COMMENTARY: The revisions to this section shorten the time to answer or object to requests for production in residential summary process matters from sixty days to fifteen days to account for the expedited pleading schedule under General Statutes § 47a-26c.

**(NEW) Sec. 13-12B. Disclosure of Lease and Ledger**

In any residential summary process matter brought under General Statutes § 47a-23 et seq. alleging nonpayment, and/or summary process cases in which either party raises the issue of a financial obligation, no later than the first court date, the plaintiff shall provide an appearing defendant tenant with a copy of the most recent written lease, if any, with all addenda, and a copy of the defendant's ledger or other accounting of rent, use and occupancy, or other charges and payments or credits, if one exists. Mandatory disclosure shall not be filed with the court but shall be provided either: (1) by service on a defendant tenant after they appear or, if the tenant is represented, on counsel for the defendant(s), using the method of service specified in the appearance(s) for the defendant(s); or (2) at the first scheduled court hearing at which a defendant tenant appears. If the mandatory disclosure is served on an appearing defendant or their counsel, the plaintiff may file a notice of compliance with the court. If the mandatory disclosure is provided to the defendant tenant for the first time at a scheduled court hearing,

the court, upon request, may grant a continuance. If a plaintiff fails to make disclosures pursuant to this section, the court may grant appropriate relief including, but not limited to, a stay of the proceedings until disclosures are provided.

COMMENTARY: This new section was added in response to the adoption of Public Acts No. 25-146, § 3, effective July 1, 2025, and codified at General Statutes § 47a-3a (d), which requires a landlord, upon request, to provide an occupant of a residence with a copy of a ledger or equivalent accounting, showing charges, payments, balance owed and any surplus.

**Sec. 14-7A. —Administrative Appeals Brought Pursuant to General Statutes § 4-183 et seq.; Appearances; Records, Briefs and Scheduling**

(a) Administrative appeals brought pursuant to General Statutes § 4-183 et seq. shall be served in accordance with applicable law [either by certified or registered mail of the appeal, and a notice of filing on a form substantially in compliance with Form JD-CV-137 or] by personal service of the appeal, and a citation on a form substantially in compliance with Form JD-CV-138. The appeal shall be filed with the court in accordance with General Statutes § 4-183 (c).

(b) In administrative appeals brought pursuant to General Statutes § 4-183 et seq., the defendant shall file an appearance within thirty days of service made pursuant to General Statutes § 4-183 (c). Within thirty days of the filing of the defendant's appearance, or if a motion to dismiss is filed, within forty-five days of the denial of a motion to dismiss, the agency shall file with the court and transmit to all parties a certified list of the papers in the record as set forth in General Statutes § 4-183 (g), and, unless otherwise excluded by law or subject to a pending motion by either party, shall make the existing listed papers available for inspection by the parties.

(c) Except as provided in Section 14-7, or except as otherwise permitted by the judicial authority in its discretion, in an administrative appeal brought pursuant to General Statutes § 4-183 et seq., the record shall be transmitted and filed in accordance with this section. For the pur-

poses of this section, the term “papers” shall include any and all documents, transcripts, exhibits, plans, minutes, agendas, correspondence, or other materials, regardless of format, which are part of the entire record of the proceeding appealed from described in General Statutes §§ 4-183 (g) and 4-177 (d), including additions to the record pursuant to General Statutes § 4-183 (h).

(d) No less than thirty days after the filing of the certified list of papers in the record under subsection (b), the court and the parties will set up a conference to establish which of the contents of the record are to be transmitted and will set up a scheduling order, including dates for the filing of the designated contents of the record, for the filing of appropriate pleading and briefs, and for conducting appropriate conferences and hearings. No brief shall exceed thirty-five pages without permission of the judicial authority. At the conference, the court shall also determine which, if any, of the designated contents of the record shall be transmitted to the parties and/or the court in paper format because such papers are either difficult to reproduce electronically or difficult to review in electronic format.

(e) The agency shall transmit to the court certified copies of the designated contents of the record established in accordance with subsection (d).

(f) If any party seeks to include in such party’s brief or appendices, papers the party deems material to its claim or position, which were not part of the designated contents of the record determined under subsection (d), but were on the certified list filed in accordance with subsection (b), such party shall file an amendment to the record as of right attaching such papers. In the event such an amendment to the record as of right is filed, the scheduling order may be adjusted to provide either party with additional time to file a brief or reply brief.

(g) No party shall include in such party’s brief or appendices, papers that were neither part of the designated contents of the record under

subsection (d), nor on the certified list filed in accordance with subsection (b), unless the court requires or permits subsequent corrections of additions to the record under General Statutes § 4-183 (g) or unless an application for leave to present additional evidence is filed and granted under General Statutes § 4-183 (h) or (i).

(h) Disputes about the contents of the record or other motion, application or objection will be heard as otherwise scheduled by the court.

(i) If a party is not in compliance with the scheduling order, the judicial authority may, on its own motion or on motion of one of the parties, and after hearing, make such order, including sanctions, as the ends of justice require.

(j) Any hearings to consider the taxation of costs in accordance with General Statutes § 4-183 (g) shall be conducted after the court renders its decision on the appeal.

COMMENTARY: The revisions to this section conform to General Statutes § 4-183, as amended by No. 25-78, § 16 of the 2025 Public Acts. The rule no longer permits service by certified or registered mail.

**(NEW) Sec. 15-9. View of Place or Thing Involved in Case**

(a) When the judicial authority is of the opinion that a viewing by the trier of fact of the place or thing involved in the case will be helpful to the trier of fact in determining any material factual issue, it may in its discretion, at any time before the closing arguments, order that the trier of fact be conducted to such place or location of such thing. During the viewing, the jury, if any, must be kept together under the supervision of a proper officer appointed by the judicial authority. The judicial authority, whether trier of fact or not, and an official court reporter or court recording monitor must be present, and with the judicial authority's permission, any other person may be present. Counsel and self-represented parties may as a matter of right be present, but the right may be waived. The purpose of viewing shall be solely to permit visual observation by the trier of fact of the place or thing in question and to permit a brief description of the site or thing being viewed by the judicial authority or by any witness or

witnesses as allowed by the judicial authority. Any proceedings at the location, including examination of witnesses, shall be at the discretion of the judicial authority. Neither the parties nor counsel nor the jurors, if any, while viewing the place or thing may engage in discussion of the significance or the implications of anything under observation or of any issue in the case.

(b) In exercising its discretion, the judicial authority should determine whether viewing the scene is necessary or important for the trier of fact to form a clearer understanding of the issues, whether the present conditions at the site are the same as those that existed on the date of the underlying incident, whether personal inspection is fair to both parties and reasonably necessary to do justice, and whether there are reasonable alternatives available to inform the trier of fact of conditions existing at the time of the incident.

COMMENTARY: This new section, together with the repeal of Section 16-12, View by Jury of Place or Thing involved in Case, provides a procedure where the trier of fact—whether by judge or jury—may view a place or thing involved in a case. Subsection (a) substantially mirrors Section 16-12, while replacing “jury” with “trier of fact” to make clear that this new section is not confined to jury trials.

Subsection (b) incorporates the standards set forth by the Supreme and Appellate Courts for determining whether a viewing should be permitted, including “whether a view is necessary or important in order to obtain a clearer understanding of the issues and to apply the evidence properly.” *Dickson v. Yale University*, 141 Conn. 250, 256, 105 A.2d 463, 465 (1954). Additionally, the judicial authority should consider whether personal inspection would be “fair to all parties concerned and is reasonably necessary to do justice between them.” *Greenberg v. Waterbury*, 117 Conn. 67, 74, 167 A. 83, 85 (1933); see *Mackin v. Mackin*, 186 Conn. 185, 190, 439 A.2d 1086 (1982). Finally, the court should determine whether there are reasonable alternatives available to apprise the trier of fact of conditions existing at the time of the incident. See *State v. Boutillier*, 144 Conn. App. 867, 873, 73 A.3d 880 (2013) (denying viewing when jury had testimony, diagrams, videos and photographs of crime scene).

### **Sec. 16-12. View by Jury of Place or Thing Involved in Case [Repealed]**

[When the judicial authority is of the opinion that a viewing by the jury of the place or thing involved in the case will be helpful to the jury in determining any material factual issue, it may in its discretion, at any time before the closing arguments, order that the jury be conducted to such place or location of such thing. During the viewing, the jury must

be kept together under the supervision of a proper officer appointed by the judicial authority. The judicial authority and an official court reporter or court recording monitor must be present, and, with the judicial authority's permission, any other person may be present. Counsel and self-represented parties may as a matter of right be present, but the right may be waived. The purpose of viewing shall be solely to permit visual observation by the jury of the place or thing in question and to permit a brief description of the site or thing being viewed by the judicial authority or by any witness or witnesses as allowed by the judicial authority. Any proceedings at the location, including examination of witnesses, shall be at the discretion of the judicial authority. Neither the parties nor counsel nor the jurors while viewing the place or thing may engage in discussion of the significance or the implications of anything under observation or of any issue in the case.]

COMMENTARY: The purpose of the repeal of this section is to facilitate a new Section 15-9, View of Place or Thing Involved in Case, that expands viewing of a place or thing to matters in which a judge is the trier of fact. Previously, viewing of a place or thing was limited to matters in which the jury was the trier of fact.

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE JUVENILE RULES

### **(NEW) Sec. 31a-18A. Transfer of Supervision of Children on Special Juvenile Probation to Adult Probation Services upon Attaining Age of Majority**

(a) Not later than thirty days prior to the attainment of eighteen years of age by the child sentenced to a period of special juvenile probation pursuant to General Statutes § 46b-133d, the judicial authority, upon its own motion or upon the motion of any party, shall hold a hearing at which the court shall review the child's compliance with the conditions of probation, modify said conditions as deemed appropriate, and order the supervision of probation transferred to Adult Probation Services upon the child attaining eighteen years of age.

(b) The court shall also: (1) advise the child that a violation of the conditions of probation or a subsequent crime that occurs after the child has attained eighteen years of age shall be handled by the adult criminal docket of the Superior Court having criminal jurisdiction in and for the geographical area in which the child resides; and (2) enter an order authorizing the transfer of any juvenile records necessary to ensure the continuity of services and proper supervision of the child to Adult Probation Services.

COMMENTARY: The rule adopts procedures applicable to transfers of supervision of juveniles sentenced to a period of special juvenile probation pursuant to General Statutes § 46b-133d for continued supervision by Adult Probation Services once the juvenile attains eighteen years of age.

#### **Sec. 35a-5. Notice and Right To Be Heard**

(a) Any foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or relative caregiver shall be notified of and have a right to be heard in any proceeding held concerning a child or youth living with such foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or relative caregiver. The Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families shall provide written notice of all court proceedings concerning any child or youth to any such foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or relative caregiver of such child or youth. Records of such notice shall be kept by the Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families and information about notice given in each case provided to the court. Any notice provided pursuant to this subsection shall include the Internet website address for any proceeding that will be conducted on a virtual platform.

(b) Any foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or relative caregiver who has cared for the child or youth shall have the right to be heard and comment on the best interest of such child or youth in any proceeding under General Statutes § 46b-129 that is brought not more than one year after the last day the foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or relative caregiver provided such care.

(c) The judicial authority may, for good cause shown and within reasonable limits, broaden or restrict any foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or relative caregiver's right to attend the proceeding or to be heard and comment on the best interest of the child or youth if such authority concludes that modification is necessary to ensure that the proceeding is conducted in a manner that best serves the rights at stake and objectives to be achieved.

[[b]] (d) Upon motion of any sibling of any child or youth committed to the Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families pursuant to General Statutes § 46b-129, the sibling shall have the right to be heard concerning visitation with and placement of any such child or youth.

COMMENTARY: The revisions to this section conform to the holding of our Supreme Court in *In re Jewelyette M.*, 351 Conn. 511, 332 A.3d 207 (2025).