



The Supreme Court of Texas

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Chambers of
Justice Nathan L. Hecht

October 19, 2010

Mr. Charles L. "Chip" Babcock, Chair
Supreme Court Rules Advisory Committee
Jackson Walker L.L.P.
1401 McKinney, Suite 1900
Houston, TX 77010

via e-mail

Re: Texas Rules of Evidence

Dear Chip:

As you know, the Judicial Conference of the United States has recently approved restyled Federal Rules of Evidence, which are scheduled to take effect December 1, 2011. The Supreme Court requests the Advisory Committee to restyle the Texas Rules of Evidence in the same manner. I understand from Presiding Judge Keller that the Court of Criminal Appeals generally concurs that a restyling project should be undertaken.

For provisions that are substantively the same as the federal rules, the same language should be used. For provisions that are different, the same restyling protocols should be employed. *See* Bryan A. Garner, *Guidelines for Drafting and Editing Court Rules*. In the course of the work, the Advisory Committee may wish to recommend substantive changes as well.

Robert Burns, chair of the Administration of Rules of Evidence Committee of the State Bar of Texas, has volunteered to take the laboring oar and has already had some discussions with Buddy Low.

As always, the Court appreciates your dedicated service and that of the Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nathan L. Hecht".

Nathan L. Hecht
Justice

c: Hon. Sharon Keller, Presiding Judge
Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas

Mr. Robert B. Burns, Jr., Chair
Administration of Rules of Evidence Committee

Mr. Gilbert I. “Buddy” Low