

Zamen, Shiva

From: Tom Riney <triney@rineymayfield.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2021 10:47 AM
To: Babcock, Chip
Cc: Elaine Carlson
Subject: SCAC assignment on jury rules
Attachments: Jury Rules Referral Letter March 2021 SCAC.pdf

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Chip, I attach the original referral letter to our subcommittee on updating jury rules. I am vice-chair of the subcommittee but Elaine asked me to take the lead because of my experience with jury trials. We have conducted several subcommittee meetings by Zoom with numerous drafts of proposed changes. While I think we have a draft that substantially improves the rules, it is not quite final. In our meeting yesterday afternoon, the subcommittee recommended we ask the Court to “translate” the rules to “plain English.” The subcommittee seems willing to try to undertake that task but Elaine and I discussed that the Court may not want to use plain English for just one section of the rules. Thus, we ask for your guidance.

We think our efforts to date substantially improve the language of the jury rules. The existing rules use clumsy and confusing language and we have tried to improve on that. We have also endeavored to eliminate language on procedures that are no longer used.

We look forward to your advice.

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