NOTICE TO THE BAR

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE ARBITRATION OF FAMILY MATTERS - PUBLICATION OF REPORT FOR COMMENT

The Supreme Court invites written comments on the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Arbitration of Family Matters ("Ad Hoc Committee") published with this notice. In this report, the Ad Hoc Committee makes recommendations to the Supreme Court for rule amendments and several standardized forms relating to the arbitration of Family matters.

In <u>Fawzy v. Fawzy</u>, 199 <u>N.J.</u> 456, 482 (2009), the Supreme Court directed the Supreme Court Family Practice Committee to develop procedures and materials to be used when parties seek arbitration in family law matters pursuant to the Uniform Arbitration Act, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 2A:23B-1 to -32. The Court, in <u>Johnson v. Johnson</u>, 204 <u>N.J.</u> 529 (2010), further authorized the use of arbitration in family law matters pursuant to the Alternative Procedure for Dispute Resolution Act, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 2A:23A-1 to -19. Although the Family Practice Committee made recommendations in both the 2009-2011 and 2011-2013 rules cycles, the Court rejected those submissions based on concerns raised in comments by the public. To address those concerns, the Court established the Ad Hoc Committee comprised of representatives from the Judiciary, the family bar, the civil bar, and experienced arbitrators. The Ad Hoc Committee's report, including the proposed rule amendments and standardized forms, is available on the Judiciary's Internet website at http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/reports2015/index.htm.

Please send any comments in writing by May 27, 2015 to:

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts
Comments on Family Arbitration Report
Hughes Justice Complex; P.O. Box 037
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0037

Comments on the report and recommendations also may be submitted by e-mail to the following address: Comments.Mailbox@judiciary.state.nj.us.

Please be advised that comments submitted in response to this notice are subject to public disclosure upon receipt.

The Court will not consider comments submitted anonymously. Thus, those submitting comments by mail should include their name and address (and those submitting comments by e-mail should include their name and e-mail address).

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.

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Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

Dated: April 21, 2015