

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

It is ORDERED that the attached amendments to Rules 1:20-3 (“District Ethics Committees; Investigations”) and 1:20A-1 (“[District Fee Arbitration Committees;] Appointment and Organization”) of the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey are adopted to be effective immediately.

For the Court,



Chief Justice

Dated: December 5, 2023

1:20-3. District Ethics Committees; Investigations

(a) ... no change

(b) Appointments. Members of Ethics Committees shall be appointed by [, and shall serve at the pleasure of] the Supreme Court for a term of four years, except that members who are subsequently designated to serve as officers pursuant to paragraph (c) shall serve for an additional two years from the date of such designation or until the end of their initial appointment term, whichever is longer. The [With the approval of the] Supreme Court may reappoint [,] a member or officer who has served a full term [may be reappointed] to one successive term. A member serving in connection with an investigation pending at the time the member's term expires may continue to serve in such matter until its conclusion. In order that, as nearly as possible, the terms of one-quarter of the members shall expire each year, the Supreme Court may, when establishing a new Ethics Committee, appoint members for terms of less than four years and members so appointed shall be eligible for reappointment to a full successive term.

(c) ... no change

(d) ... no change

(e) ... no change

(f) ... no change

(g) ... no change

(h) ... no change

(i) ... no change

(j) ... no change

Note: Former Rule redesignated as Rule 1:20-4 January 31, 1984 to be effective February 15, 1984. Source -- Former Rule 1:20-2 adopted February 23, 1978, to be effective April 1, 1978; paragraphs (a), (h), (l) and (m) amended January 17, 1979, which were superseded on March 2, 1979, to be effective April 1, 1979; and paragraphs (n) and (o) restored on March 22, 1979, to be effective April 1, 1979; subparagraph (l)(3) deleted and new paragraph (p) adopted June 19, 1981, to be effective immediately; paragraphs (c), (h), (j) and (l)(1)(i) amended July 16, 1981, to be effective September 14, 1981; Rule redesignated as Rule 1:20-3; paragraphs (a) through (e) amended; paragraphs (f), (g) and part of (k) deleted; paragraphs (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o) and (p) amended and redesignated (f), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n) and (o) and new paragraphs (g) and (p) adopted January 31, 1984, to be effective February 15, 1984; paragraphs (f), (g), (h), (i), (l), (n), (o) and (p) amended November 5, 1986, to be effective January 1, 1987; paragraph (e) and (m) amended June 26, 1987 to be effective July 1, 1987; paragraphs (i), (j) and (o) amended November 7, 1988 to be effective January 2, 1989; paragraphs (f) and (i) amended, and paragraph (n)(3) caption and text amended June 29, 1990 to be effective September 4, 1990; paragraph (f) amended July 13, 1994 to be effective September 1, 1994; paragraphs (g) and (n)(2) captions and text amended August 8, 1994, to be effective immediately; paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) amended, paragraphs (e) through (p) deleted and new paragraphs (e) through (j) adopted January 31, 1995 to be effective March 1, 1995; paragraphs (f), (g)(5), and (h) amended July 5, 2000 to be effective September 5, 2000; paragraph (g)(1) amended July 12, 2002 to be effective September 3, 2002; paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i) (text and caption), and (j) amended July 28, 2004 to be effective September 1, 2004; paragraph (b) amended June 15, 2007 to be effective September 1, 2007; paragraphs (b) and (c) amended July 22, 2014, to be effective September 1, 2014; subparagraph (e)(2)(B) amended May 9, 2019 to be effective immediately; subparagraph (i)(2)(B) amended May 11, 2023 to be effective immediately; paragraph (b) amended December 5, 2023 to be effective immediately.

1:20A-1. Appointment and Organization

(a) ... no change

(b) Appointments. Members of Fee Committees shall be appointed by the Supreme Court and shall serve a term of 4 years. A member [who has served a full term shall not be eligible for reappointment to a successive term but a member] appointed to fill an unexpired term shall be eligible for reappointment to a full successive term. The Supreme Court may reappoint a member who has served a full four-year term to one successive four-year term. A member serving in connection with a proceeding in which testimony has begun at the time the member's term expires shall continue in such matter until its conclusion and the filing of an arbitration determination or stipulation of settlement unless relieved by the Supreme Court. In order that, as nearly as possible, the terms of one-quarter of the members shall expire each year, the Supreme Court may, when establishing a new fee committee, appoint members for terms of less than 4 years and members so appointed shall be eligible for reappointment to a full successive term.

(c) ... no change

(d) ... no change

(e) ... no change

Note: Adopted February 23, 1978 to be effective April 1, 1978; amended January 31, 1984 to be effective February 15, 1984; text of R. 1:20A-1 amended and incorporated into 1:20A-1(e), new paragraphs (a)(b)(c) and (d) adopted January 31, 1995 to be effective March 1, 1995; paragraph (c) amended July 28, 2004 to be effective September 1, 2004; paragraph (b) amended December 5, 2023 to be effective immediately.