

From: NJ RUA <newjerseyrua@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 2:20 PM
To: Comments Mailbox
Cc: Best Practices
Subject: [External]Comments on Proposed Amendments to Rule 4:72 –Removal of Publication Requirement

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the Judiciary organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts
Hughes Justice Complex

P.O. Box 037
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0037
Via email to: Comments.Mailbox@njcourts.gov

Dear Mr Grant,

As representatives of the New Jersey Red Umbrella Alliance, Best Practices Policy Project and residents of the state of New Jersey we write in support of the action to eliminate the publication requirement for name changes as per the recommendation of the Supreme Court CivilPractice Committee and Supreme Court Family Practice Committee. The committee has recommended eliminating the publication requirements set forth in Rule 4:72-3 ("Notice of Application") and 4:72-4 ("Hearing; Judgment; Publication; Filing.")

New Jersey Red Umbrella Alliance (NJRUA) is a group promoting the human rights of sex workers in NJ. The Best Practices Policy Project is organization supporting grassroots advocacy so that collectively we can promote the rights of people who engage in sex work in of all forms.

As we provide support to, and in the case of NJRUA are led by, gender non-conforming and transgender people we have long observed that the requirement for anyone getting a name change to publish this fact in a newspaper is antiquated, expensive and exposes transgner people to potential violence. We note that cisgendered people do not have to follow Rule 4:72-3 ("Notice of Application") and 4:72-4 ("Hearing; Judgment; Publication; Filing this when divorcing and changing their name.

The change proposed with would remove one of the many barriers for transgender people seeking name changes.

Sincerely,

Jiselle Parker (newjerseyrua@gmail.com)
N'Jaila Rhee (newjerseyrua@gmail.com)
Penelope Saunders, PhD (bestpracticespolicyproject@gmail.com)