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The Board would like to thank the following participants for their involvement in these important work groups:

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Oregon Judicial Department Proposes Four UTCR Out-of-Cycle Amendments and UTCR 21.140 - Mandatory eFiling

This week, the Office of the State Court Administrator submitted a request for public comment on five out-of-cycle modifications to the Uniform Trial Court Rules. They are:

1. Amend 21.040 - Format of Documents to be Filed Electronically
2. Amend 21.070 - Special Filing Requirements
3. Amend 21.080 - Electronic Filing Deadlines
4. Amend 21.120 - Retention of Documents by Filers
5. Adopt new 21.140 - Mandatory Electronic Filing

If adopted, the four amendments and one adoption will modify the current eFiling process. The amendment of UTCR 21.120, the retention of documents by filers, and the adoption of UTCR 21.140, mandatory electronic filing will be of particular interest to bar members.

Mandatory eFiling

Under proposed UTCR 21.140, "an active member of the Oregon State Bar must file a document using the electronic filing system." This requirement will apply as of December 1, 2014 to the courts in 11 counties that have made the switch to Oregon eCourt and the remaining courts 30 business days after the date on which the court begins using the electronic filing system. The Oregon Judicial Department has published a timeline at <http://courts.oregon.gov/Oregonecourt/pages/oregoneCourtMap.aspx>.

File Retention

The Oregon Judicial Department/Oregon State Bar eCourt Implementation Task Force would specifically like to thank the many practitioners who took the time to share their comments and concerns regarding the file retention policy in UTCR 21.120. After extensive discussion, the proposed rule will require that an eFiled document with original signature(s) must be retained in its original paper form for no less than 30 days.

Comments

The proposed amendments and the new rule are posted on the Oregon Judicial Department's website. To view the proposed amendments and the proposed new rule, go to: <http://courts.oregon.gov/OJD/programs/utcr/pages/utcrrules.aspx>.

Interested in submitting a comment? Please do so by **September 22, 2014** by either (1) clicking on the button next to the proposed amendment on the OJD's website, (2) send an email to utcr@ojd.state.or.us, or (3) traditional mail (UTCR Reporter, Supreme Court Building, 1163 State Street, Salem, Oregon 97301-2563).

Reports to the Judiciary Committee to be Submitted

During the 2013 Legislative Session, three bills, Senate Bill (SB) 798, 799, and 812, were submitted for consideration to the Oregon State Legislature.

- SB 798 would have expanded the permissible use of alternate jurors in criminal cases.
- SB 799 would have modified the process to change representation in judicial proceedings.
- SB 812 would have cut the number of motions to disqualify a judge allowed in judicial districts with three or fewer circuit court judges.

All three bills were still in committee at the end of the legislative session and the proposed changes were not adopted. The chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Sen. Floyd Prozanski, asked the Oregon State Bar to convene a task force to address each issue and stakeholder concern with the hope of finding common ground. Over the last year, judges, attorneys, policymakers, representatives of the Oregon Judicial Department, and Bar staff met to discuss possible language.

The Oregon State Bar Board of Governors recently accepted a report from each task force, which will be presented to the Senate Judiciary Committee for consideration. The reports can be found on the [Public Affairs Department's web page](#).

Initiatives and Referrals and Referendums! Oh my!

In late July, the secretary of state certified seven citizen initiatives, referendums, and legislative referrals to be voted on this fall. The issues range from the labeling of genetically modified foods to permitting sitting judges to accept employment with the Oregon National Guard and state public universities.

The secretary of state's website has every proposed 2014 ballot measure and accompanying language listed in the Elections [Division Initiative, Referendum, and Referral Database](#). The seven measures on the November ballot are listed below. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact pubaff@osbar.org.

Legislative Referrals and Referendum

Measure 86 - [Oregon Opportunity Initiative](#)

Measure 87 - [Employment of Judges](#)

Measure 88 - [Driver Cards](#)

Citizen Initiatives

Measure 89 - [Equal Rights Amendment](#)

Measure 90 - [Open Primary Initiative](#)

Measure 91 - [Control, Regulation, and Taxation of Marijuana and Industrial Hemp Act](#)

Measure 92 - [Labeling and Genetically Engineered Raw and Packaged Food](#)

2015 Law Improvement Program Proposals Move Forward

Legislative Counsel is in the process of turning the Oregon State Bar's 2015 Law Improvement Program [proposals](#) into draft language. The Public Affairs Department has received draft language for a number of the proposals and there are still a handful being drafted. Out of the 22 Law Improvement Program proposals, approximately one half have been drafted by Legis-

lative Counsel, reviewed and commented on by a section, and returned to Legislative Counsel.

The deadline for legislators and committees to submit an unlimited number of proposals is September 22, 2014. Legislators and committees may submit requests after September 22, but

are, in most cases, limited in the number of requests they can make.

If any questions arise about the drafting or review process, please contact the Public Affairs Department at pubaff@osbar.org.

Registered to Vote?

Are you registered to vote and is your information up to date? On November 4, 2014, Oregonians will have an opportunity to choose Oregon's next Governor, vote in state and federal elections, and weigh in on seven citizen initiatives and legislative referrals.

Go to the secretary of state's website (<http://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/default.aspx>) to register to vote or to update your voter registration information.

