

68,357

LAW OFFICES
TRAWICK, GRIFFIS, HAMMERSLEY & VALENTINE, P.A.
LAWYERS PROFESSIONAL BUILDING
2051 MAIN STREET
P. O. BOX 4019
SARASOTA, FLORIDA 33578
TELEPHONE 813 - 366-0660

March 17, 1986

FILED
SID J. WHITE

MAR 20 1986

CLERK, SUPREME COURT

By: Chief Deputy Clerk

Mr. Sid J. White
Clerk of the Supreme Court
Supreme Court Building
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Re: Proposed amendment to Rule 1.100(c)

Dear Sid:

In accordance with the invitation extended by the court in connection with the proposed amendment to Rule 1.100(c) in case 68-357, I have the following comments:

1. There is no emergency. We have lived since 1950 under our new pleading requirements in a very satisfactory manner without cover sheets.
2. Subsection (2) provides for proceedings to be held in abeyance until a cover sheet is furnished. I suggest that Article I, Section 21, of the Constitution precludes this. When a rule is adopted that gives a higher priority to the furnishing of information to a computer than it does to the administration of justice, we have reversed our priorities.
3. The circuit court has ample power to enforce the requirement of the cover sheet without suspending proceedings to the possible detriment of the litigants. It is an insufficient answer to say that the litigant can avoid the suspension by filing the cover sheet. That is not the question. The question is whether the bench and bar of Florida are going to adopt the philosophical position that computer information is so important.
4. The easiest way of complying with section (3) is to have the judge indicate in the caption of the final judgment or order what type of disposition has occurred or, if the final disposition is by stipulation, to have the attorney filing the stipulation do so. It will save an additional paper. A simple format for disposition can easily be devised and the computer programmers will be

Mr. Sid J. White

-2-

March 17, 1986

happy.

Please convey my comments to the court.

Sincerely,

Henry P. Crawford, Jr.

HPT/jl