

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA  
IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA FAMILY RULES OF PROCEDURE  
FORMS 12.985(a)-(g)  
CASE NO. SC19-1032

COMMENT

I am filing my comment to the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.985(b)(1) "Collaborative Law Participation Agreement Principles and Guidelines". I suggest placing the word "Principles and Guidelines", adding the word "of" and placing the entire phrase, "Principles and Guidelines of" to the title of the form. The title will then read:

PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES OF COLLABORATIVE LAW PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

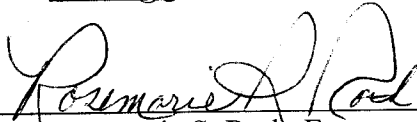
The form encompasses the principles and guidelines of the Collaborative Law Participation Agreement. In addition, the title reads better and does not appear that the words "principles" and "guidelines" are dangling at the end of the title.

In addition I see a necessity to amend Form 12.985(b)(2) "Collaborative Law Participation Agreement Paragraph V, "Clients' Acknowledgements and Responsibilities" subparagraph B. Said paragraph has the clients acknowledging what they are giving up if resolution is reached using the Collaborative Process. I think it is necessary for clients to understand they are also giving up the right to take an appeal that may be available in a litigated matter. Most clients, generally, are not aware that final agreements reached and incorporated into a Final Judgment are not appealable whereas a judge's determination of the outcome of a case and memorialized in a Final Judgment may be appealable.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing has been furnished to: Mary Lou Cuellar-Stilo, Committee Chair, General Magistrate 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, 800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 404, Tampa, FL 33602-3541 via [stiloml@fljud13.org](mailto:stiloml@fljud13.org), and Mikalla Andies Davis, Bar Staff Liaison to the Committee, 651 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300 via [mdavis@floridabar.org](mailto:mdavis@floridabar.org), this 19 day of September, 2019.

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By   
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RECEIVED, 09/19/2019 03:36:31 PM, Clerk, Supreme Court