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June 7, 1985

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COURT ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

FROM: Luther H. Soules III, Chairman

Enclosed is a draft of the Minutes of our May 31, 1985, meeting, together with Subcommittee assignments. I will entertain any suggestions that you have for changing them that are submitted to me on or prior to June 30, 1985. Thereafter I will finalize the minutes and place them in the committee book for formal approval at the next meeting. At the next meeting (November 1 and 2) we will consider first the proposed harmonized appellate rules so that again we can accommodate input from all interested sources including the Court of Criminal Appeals and its Advisory Committee and the Courts of Appeals. We will thereafter take up the report of Judge Casseb's committee concerning the Court's response to enrolled Bill 1658. Following that we will take up all of the suggestions then before the committee in sequence by rule number so that each Standing Subcommittee Chairman can be prepared with his report (or have members of his Standing Subcommittee prepared to report on portions of the suggestions) until all are reported and acted upon.

The written reports of all Subcommittees are due to me on September 30, 1985, and are to be copied and distributed by each Subcommittee Chairman to all members of the Committee and Chief Justices and Justices of the Supreme Court of Texas. I ask that each of you review the reports as you receive them and make whatever notes and commentaries you have on them so as to be prepared for the November meeting. All reports should include all drafted rule changes (whether or not recommended by the Subcommittee and whether or not the source requesting the change has actually done any drafting). Drafted rule changes should be submitted on letter size paper and should show the existing rule and the proposed revision; the new words in the proposed rule should be underlined and the deleted words should be bracketed with a strike-through.

In addition to receiving the reports from the various Standing Subcommittee Chairmen, Judge Casseb's Subcommittee, and William Dorsaneo's Subcommittee I will prepare a complete agenda

June 7, 1985

Page Two

so that you need not bring to the meetings items you have not marked up. Every member has been given several assignments to Subcommittees in order to get enough energy to accomplish the many tasks necessary and before us for the next meeting. I have had my staff highlight those committees to which you individually are assigned so that you can readily see your assignments.

An additional item for your prompt consideration is that the Legislature passed House Bill No. 756 and sent it to the Governor requiring all "state agencies" to use letter size paper and prohibiting the use of legal size paper effective September 1, 1986. Some question whether this "state agencies" term includes Courts. I certainly do not know what it may be interpreted to mean. Some of you may have ideas on whether legal size paper should be available for use by lawyers in litigation and, in that event, you may wish to address some remarks to the Governor before the Bill is signed by him, if he does sign it.

I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to meet and work with you on May 31, and I look forward towards effectively addressing each and all of the remaining matters before the Committee in our November sessions.

Very truly yours,

Luther H. Soules III

LHSIII:tk
Enclosures