

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

IN RE: AMENDMENT TO
FLORIDA RULE OF CRIMINAL
PROCEDURE 3.116

Case No: SC23-0803

COMMENT OF JASON H. HABER, ESQ.

I am writing to urge the court to adopt the amendment to Florida rule of criminal procedure 3.116. While I do not practice criminal law, in my practice I often represent domestic violence victims and other persons interested in criminal cases. The use of remote technology greatly enhances my clients' ability to stay informed on the progress of their cases and limits the hardships required to be incurred by them to do so, such as taking time off work or finding child care so they can attend court hearings. This, in part, is their right under the Marsy's Law amendment to the Florida Constitution, as you know.

My practice is primarily in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach Counties in the family law and civil courts. In those courts, almost everything is done by remote appearance, especially these types of short, ministerial hearings. The lack of consistency from county-to-county, and even courtroom-to-courtroom in the criminal

courts adds to the stress and hardship for my clients and often confusion for both them and me.

This proposal passed overwhelmingly in the Rules committee and the Board of Governors because it is a common-sense provision that should apply equally to the criminal courts as the civil and family courts. It is important that the legal profession embrace technology across the board. I respectfully urge you to adopt this rule amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: /s/ Jason H. Haber
JASON H. HABER
Florida Bar Number: 41119

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

COMES NOW the undersigned attorney, and hereby certifies that the above comment has been electronically served on all parties on the e-service list on this the 8th day of August, 2023.

 /s/ Jason H. Haber
JASON H. HABER