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**ORDER ADOPTING
AMENDMENT TO GENERAL RULES OF
PRACTICE FOR THE SUPERIOR AND DISTRICT COURTS**

Pursuant to authority of N.C.G.S. §7A-34, the General Rules of Practice for the Superior and District Courts are amended by the adoption of a new subsection (b) to Rule 5 and amendments to subsection (a) of Rule 5, to read as follows:

Rule 5. Form of Pleadings

(a) If feasible, each paper presented to the court for filing shall be flat and unfolded, without manuscript cover, and firmly bound.

All papers presented to the court for filing shall be letter size (8 1/2" x 11"), with the exception of wills and exhibits. The Clerk of Superior Court shall require a party to refile any paper which does not conform to this size. This subsection of this rule shall become effective on July 1, 1982. Prior to that date either letter or legal size papers will be accepted.

(b) All papers filed in civil actions, special proceedings and estates shall include as the first page of the filing a cover sheet summarizing the critical elements of the filing in a format prescribed by the Administrative Office of the Courts. The Clerk of Superior Court shall require a party to refile any paper which does not include the required cover sheet. This subsection of this rule shall become effective on October 1, 1996. Prior to that date filings with and without cover sheets will be accepted.

Adopted by the Court in Conference this 5th day of September, 1996. The amendment shall be effective 1 October 1996, and shall be promulgated by publication in the Advance Sheets of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals and by distribution by mail to each superior court judge in the State.

ORR, J.
For the Court