

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

Pursuant to N.J. Const. Art. VI., sec. 2 par. 3, it is ORDERED that the provisions of Rule 1:11-2 (“Withdrawal or Substitution”) of the Rule Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey are supplemented and relaxed so as to clarify that a matter filed and pending with the court belongs to the law firm, law practice and professional corporation, non-profit or government entity engaged in the practice of law.

It is FURTHER ORDERED that the filing of a substitution of attorney is required where (1) an attorney’s law practice or law firm dissolves; (2) an attorney’s law practice or law firm merges with another law firm; (3) an attorney is disbarred from practice, resulting in the dissolution or merger of that law practice or law firm; (4) an attorney leaves a law firm and a client of that law firm seeks to remain with that attorney; or (5) a law firm seeks to transfer a matter to another law firm.

It is FURTHER ORDERED that the provisions of Rule 1:11-3 (“Termination of Responsibility in Trial Court; Responsibility on Appeal”) are relaxed and supplemented so as to require a newly retained law firm or attorney of record to file a Notice of Appearance with the trial court after the time for appeal from final judgment has expired or an order is entered therein. Where the prior law firm or attorney of record continues to represent the client after the expiration of the time for appeal, a notice of appearance will not be required.

The provisions of this order are effective immediately and until the adoption of conforming rule amendments.

For the Court,



Chief Justice

Dated: February 8, 2018