IN THE SUPREME COURT

OF THE

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

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IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF) RULE 24-03
A NEW RULE TO CREATE A COMMISSION)
ON ACCESS TO THE COURTS	

A hearing was held on February 14, 2024, at Pierre, South Dakota, relating to the adoption of a new rule relating to creating a Commission on Access to the Courts and the Court having considered the proposed adoption and oral presentation relating thereto, now, therefore, it is

ORDERED that the adoption of a new rule relating to creating a Commission on Access to the Courts is hereby adopted to read in its entirety as follows:

Adoption of a New Rule to Create a Commission on Access to the Courts

Section 1. That a new rule be adopted to read as follows:

There is hereby created a Commission on Access to the Courts. The commission shall consist of eleven members appointed as follows:

- (1) Seven members appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, three initially appointed for a term of two years and four appointed for a term of three years.
- (2) Four members appointed by the President of the State Bar of South Dakota, two initially appointed for a term of two years and two for a term of three years.

Thereafter, each appointment shall be for a term of three years, beginning on the first day of July. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall appoint a chair of the commission and the President of the State Bar shall appoint a vice-chair of the commission from their appointed members. The commission members shall serve without compensation. The Commission shall be staffed by the Unified Judicial System.

Section 2. That a new rule be adopted to read as follows:

The Commission on Access to the Courts shall work collaboratively across the justice system to advance efforts to promote equal access to the court and inspire a high level of trust and confidence in the South Dakota court system. This may include:

- (1)Recommending improvements in court processes, procedures and policies;
- Addressing access to counsel and collaborative efforts (2)with entities that provide legal representation pro bono or at reduced cost for low-income or disadvantaged individuals;
- Developing models to assist self-represented litigants (3)and addressing barriers to access to the court system;
- Increasing the availability of legal aid services (4)statewide;
- (5)Expanding the availability of effective use of technology; and
- (6) Providing outreach efforts and strategic planning to ensure timely and effective access to the judicial system.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this rule shall become effective immediately.

DATED at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20th day of February, 2024.

BY THE COURT:

ATTEST

Clerk of the Supreme Court (SEAL)

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

In the Supreme Court
I, Shirley A. Jameson-Fergel, Clerk of the Supreme Court of
Sounh Dakota, hereby certify that the within instrument is a true
and correct copy of the original thereof as the same appears
are recently by the file. In without when the hereunto set on record in my office. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said court at Pierre, Sp, this

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SUPREME COURT STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

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