



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

Atlanta, September 1, 2016

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

The following order was passed.

It is ordered that Rule 26 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of the State of Georgia be hereby amended by rewording the Rule.

The amended Rule 26, effective September 1, 2016, shall read as follows:

Rule 26. MOTIONS AND MOTIONS TO DISQUALIFY. Any motions may be filed while a matter is pending in the Court. Motions should comply with Rules 15, 16, and 17. Responses to motions may be filed at any time. See Rule 18.

A party to the proceeding may file a motion to disqualify a Justice within a reasonable time after the moving party discovers or should have discovered the grounds for disqualification.

The motion and all evidence thereon shall be presented by accompanying affidavit(s) which shall clearly state the facts and reasons for the belief that bias or prejudice exists, being definite and specific as to time, place, persons and circumstances of the conduct or statements which demonstrate either bias in favor of any adverse party, prejudice toward the moving party, or that the Justice's impartiality otherwise might be reasonably questioned. Allegations consisting of bare conclusions and opinions shall not be legally sufficient to support the motion or warrant further proceedings.

A Justice whose impartiality is questioned will determine, alone or in consultation with the other Justices, whether to grant or deny the motion to disqualify or to disqualify himself or herself from or not participate in the case voluntarily, rendering the motion moot. The criteria for disqualification are set

forth in statutory law, case law, and the Code of Judicial Conduct. When a Justice is disqualified, the underlying action will proceed in accordance with Rule 57.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

Clerk's Office, Atlanta

I certify that the above is a true extract from the minutes of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Witness my signature and the seal of said court hereto affixed the day and year last above written.

 Clerk