

## PREFACE TO THE 2024 EDITION

This book explains and analyzes the Minnesota General Rules of Practice adopted by the Minnesota Supreme Court in 1991, effective January 1, 1992. These rules provide a comprehensive codification of rules replacing the former Code of Rules for the District Courts, Rules for Uniform Decorum, Minnesota Civil Trialbook, Family Court Rules, Probate Court Rules, Conciliation Court Rule, Jury Management Rules, and the vast majority of the former local rules of the ten judicial districts.

It is the hope that these comments will assist Minnesota lawyers and judges to understand and apply these rules to accomplish their fundamental purpose: to make practice more consistent and less complicated for litigants, their lawyers, and the courts.

The Minnesota General Rules of Practice continue to evolve to meet the practical needs of Minnesota courts and litigants. These rules are reviewed periodically by the Minnesota Supreme Court Advisory Committee on General Rules of Practice, ably chaired by Judge Elizabeth Anne Hayden of St. Cloud until 2010 and continuing into 2011 and beyond, Judge Kathryn D. Meserich of Hastings. Judge Stephen Halsey of Buffalo has more recently taken the helm. The current and past chairs of this committee have steered the advisory committee with patience and wisdom. The rules have been amended regularly and are kept current in this process. The amendments are discussed in the Author's Comments sections of this book, and the Advisory Committee comments are also included for convenience. The advisory committee will continue to look at open issues relating to collaborative lawyering and whether there is any need to address collaborative lawyering under the general rules.

The Author's Comments focus on what was new or changed in the new rules. These rules need commentary. Where the rules have simply been renumbered without significant change, little commentary is provided. Discussion of how the General Rules of Practice dovetail with the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure, the Minnesota Rules of Criminal Procedure, and with other applicable rules continues to be provided throughout this edition.

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