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CLERK OF COURT
COURT OF APPEALS OF GA

3224 River Mist Cove
Decatur, GA 30034

January 18, 2015

The Clerk
Court of Appeals
Atlanta, GA

Dear Sir:

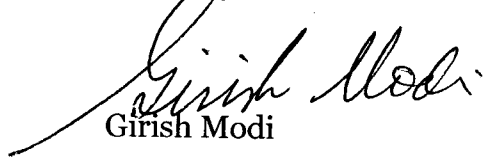
I am a pro se litigant and recently came across Rule 31 while preparing an application for discretionary appeal. Based on my firsthand experience, I'd like to make the following suggestions. Please circulate these among the judges and get their comments or approval, so that the Court can incorporate them in the next revision of "Rule 31" and in "Guide for pro se litigants":

- (1) All the trial courts in Georgia (except Appeals Court) and other States throughout America follow the standard and widely accepted page setup format for their documents, which is to allow 1.25" margin on the left side and 1" margin on the top, bottom and right side. That is the way pages of all the magazines and books are setup.
- (2) Appeals Court is the only court which insists on having 2" margin on the top of a page and binding the pages on top, while rest of the world binds the left edge of their documents with either glue, staples or comb binders. This Court can require litigants to bind left edges with comb binders so that the document lay flat and makes it easier to browse. Since every litigant includes exhibits which have only 1" margin on the top, it conflicts with Appeal Court's requirement of 2" at top and obscures top lines if the document is thick.

- (3) Instead of asking the litigants to type their documents in Times Roman typeface size 11, why don't you ask them to type in Georgia or Bookman size 12, so that it will be less stressful on the eyes? This letter is produced in Georgia size 12 typeface.
- (4) Most courts in other States require that the lines be numbered on each page. That way it makes easier for reference. In old days lawyers were using WordPerfect because it had provision for line numbering. Now Microsoft Word is used by almost every one and it has built-in option to include line numbers and page boarders automatically.
- (5) While Appeal Court insists that copies of the Orders from trial courts must be stamped-filed copies and must have actual signature of the trial judge, strangely it does not follow this requirement when it issues any Order.
- (6) When Appeals Court rejects/denies an application, it states only one word "Denied". But, it would be helpful if it lists the reasons for denial, then litigants can learn about Court's unpublished procedure.

Thank you for your consideration of my suggestions,

Sincerely,


Girish Modi