

From: [Tom Robertson](#)
To: [ADMcomment](#)
Subject: Proposed amendment
Date: Thursday, September 08, 2016 1:57:18 PM

Re: the proposed amendment of MCR 3.804(B), the amendment being the addition of subsection (3) prohibiting the use of videoconferencing technology for adoption consents or releases:

Under the adoption code, both consents and releases taken out-of-court are valid if the parent is (1) in prison (2) in the armed services (3) taken out of state in compliance with the other state's laws – Arkansas allows both if the documents is simply notarized. Given that there is no ability of our court to view the parent under those circumstances, it makes little sense to prohibit videoconferencing technology for the taking of a release or consent. In fact, it is probably MORE reliable than an out-of-state document that is merely notarized.

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