

### Tips, Traps, and Resources

**RECENT CHANGES TO FEDERAL RULES:** On December 1, 2009, significant changes were made to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure ([www.law.cornell.edu/rules/frcp](http://www.law.cornell.edu/rules/frcp)), the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure ([www.law.cornell.edu/rules/frcrmp](http://www.law.cornell.edu/rules/frcrmp)), the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure ([www.law.cornell.edu/rules/frbp](http://www.law.cornell.edu/rules/frbp)), the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure ([www.law.cornell.edu/rules/frap](http://www.law.cornell.edu/rules/frap)), and the Local Rules of the United States District Court for the District of Oregon ([www.ord.uscourts.gov/local-rules](http://www.ord.uscourts.gov/local-rules)). New Local Bankruptcy Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Oregon ([www.orb.uscourts.gov/Rules\\_Form/court\\_local\\_rules.cfm](http://www.orb.uscourts.gov/Rules_Form/court_local_rules.cfm)) became effective January 1, 2010.

**NEW NOTARY LAWS:** Beginning January 1, 2010, a new law affects how every Oregon notary will identify document signers. Go to [www.filinginoregon.com/notary/changes](http://www.filinginoregon.com/notary/changes) for more details. The Corporation Division will no longer send announcements or commission renewal notices through the mail. Send an e-mail to [NOTARYNEWS@listsmart.osl.state](mailto:NOTARYNEWS@listsmart.osl.state).

or.us and enter “subscribe” in the body of the message to be notified of changes in the notary laws and rules. Notaries are responsible for their own reminders to renew.

**DE NOVO REVIEW:** SB 262 from the 2009 Oregon legislative session (2009 Or Laws Ch 231) provides that de novo review in all equity cases (other than parental rights termination proceedings) is now discretionary rather than automatic. Attorneys in domestic relations and other equitable actions must now petition the appellate court for de novo review.

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO UTCR:** To view the proposed changes to the 2010 Uniform Trial Court Rules, go to <http://courts.oregon.gov/OJD/programs/utcr/utcrules.page>. Public comment on the proposed changes will be accepted until April 8, 2010.

**NEW EDITION OF TECHNOLOGY GUIDE:** The *2010 Solo and Small Firm Legal Technology Guide: Critical Decisions Made Simple* is now available from the American Bar Association for \$89.95 (\$54.95 for ABA Law Practice Management Section members). Go to [www.ababooks.org](http://www.ababooks.org) or call 1-800-285-2221 to order.

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#### DISCLAIMER

*IN BRIEF* includes claim prevention information that helps you to minimize the likelihood of being sued for legal malpractice. The material presented does not establish, report, or create the standard of care for attorneys. The articles do not represent a complete analysis of the topics presented, and readers should conduct their own appropriate research.