
Ben R. Miller

This publication has earned for the Committee responsible for it the appreciation of both bench and bar of Louisiana. The rules of the Louisiana Supreme Court and of our three intermediate appellate courts are included, and in addition the local rules of all the district courts except those for the Thirteenth, Eighteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-Fifth, Twenty-Seventh, and Twenty-Ninth. This publication should stimulate the promulgation of written rules in those districts.

A publication such as this serves more than one purpose. The practitioner, of course, will gain from it some familiarity with the procedures outside his own local court. Of more value, however, may be the recognition by the bench and bar of the entire state of the need for more uniformity in procedural rules. For from one district court to another only a few miles away or a few hours away, there is quite often as completely different local rules as between different states.

It can hardly be questioned that a local court has the inherent power to adopt its own rules of court not inconsistent with law or with the exercise by the Supreme Court of its higher inherent rule-making powers. Each district court and each local bar can profit from this publication by comparing its own rules against those of the other districts — accepting the best and discarding the undesirable. But agencies such as the Judicial Council and the Judicial Administrator must perhaps spearhead reforms in local procedural rules if there is to be uniformity in those areas where uniformity would be desirable. Such a publication as this, particularly if supplemented and kept reasonably current as is contemplated, would keep attention focused on the problem.

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