

Proposed Amendments to Rule 20

Rule 20 is amended as follows:

Rule 20. Permissive Joinder of Parties

(a) ~~Permissive Joinder. All persons~~ **Persons Who May Join or Be Joined.**

(1) Plaintiffs. Persons may join in one action as plaintiffs if:

(A) they assert any right to relief jointly, severally, or in the alternative ~~in~~ **with** respect ~~of~~ **to** or arising out of the same transaction, occurrence, or series of transactions or occurrences; and ~~if~~

(B) any question of law or fact common to all ~~these persons~~ **plaintiffs** will arise in the action. ~~All persons~~

(2) Defendants. Persons may be joined in one action as defendants if ~~there:~~

(A) any right to relief is asserted against them jointly, severally, or in the alternative, ~~any right to relief in~~ **with** respect ~~of~~ **to** or arising out of the same transaction, occurrence, or series of transactions or occurrences; ~~and if~~

(B) any question of law or fact common to all defendants will arise in the action. ~~A~~

(3) Extent of Relief. Neither a plaintiff ~~or~~ **a** defendant need ~~not~~ be interested in obtaining or defending against all the relief demanded. ~~Judgment~~ **The court** may be given ~~for~~ **grant judgment to** one or more of the plaintiffs according to their ~~respective~~ rights to relief, and against one or more defendants according to their ~~respective~~ liabilities.

~~(b) Separate Trials. The court may make such orders as will prevent a party from being embarrassed, delayed, or put to expense by the inclusion of a party~~**Protective Measures. The court may issue orders — including an order for separate trials — to protect a party against embarrassment, delay, expense, or other prejudice that arises from including a person** against whom the party asserts no claim and who asserts no claim against the party, ~~and may order separate trials or make other orders to prevent delay or prejudice.~~

(As amended July 28, 1988, eff. Nov. 1, 1988; _____, **2009**, eff. _____, **2010**.)

Advisory Committee Note

The language of Rule 20 has been amended as part of the general restyling of these rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.