

# CIVIL SOLUTIONS, LLC

MEDIATION and LEGAL CONSULTING

OFFICE OF JENNIFER INGRAM JOHNSON

September 21, 2023

Clerk of Appellate Courts  
Post Office Box 249  
Jackson, MS 39205

RE: Comments on Petition to Create Rules for Collaborative Law  
Misc. Cause No. 89-R-99044

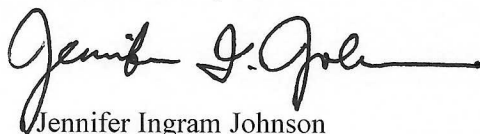
To the Mississippi Supreme Court:

I am writing today in support of the Petition to Create Rules for Collaborative Law. This is an issue near and dear to my heart, which was born out of my personal experience with divorce and custody of my two daughters, and also based upon my experience as an advocate for divorcing persons in the litigation setting currently in place. Issues of divorce and custody touch upon the most intimate and emotionally driven relationships in our lives, and as such, it makes sense to implement an alternative to the adversarial litigation process. This is why, as President of The Mississippi Bar, I created the Collaborative Law Study Committee as an ad hoc committee to study and make recommendations as to whether Collaborative Law is appropriate for the legal community and the citizens of Mississippi. The Petition currently pending before the Court is the result of the tireless efforts of the Collaborative Law Committee over two consecutive years.

I urge the Court to give serious consideration to the adoption of the Rules for Collaborative Law, which are proposed to apply only to Domestic Relations matters at this time. Implementing Collaborative Law is good for the citizens of our State, especially our children, as the voluntary, cooperative process promotes healthy co-parenting. Implementing Collaborative Law is good for the members of the Mississippi Bar, as it promotes collaboration, cooperation and less vitriolic interactions among the parties and counsel. Implementing Collaborative Law is good for the Chancery Bench in Mississippi, as it can relieve crowded dockets, among other benefits. Collaborative Law is a pro-family action the Court can feel good about taking.

If I can be of assistance to the Court in its consideration of this matter, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at any time. Thank you for the time and effort you are expending in reviewing the proposed rules and submitted comments.

Sincerely,  
Civil Solutions, LLC



Jennifer Ingram Johnson  
Past President, The Mississippi Bar  
2020-2021