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To: Rules_Comments@ao.uscourts.gov
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Subject: Comment on Fed. Rules change

03-AP-055

To the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure:

I understand that you are considering an amendment to change the federal rules to allow the citation of unpublished opinions. I urge you to give close consideration to the strongly held views that such a change will give undue weight to unpublished opinions that may not fully treat issues but rather do so in a more summary fashion appropriate only to the parties to which they would otherwise only apply. Moreover, I foresee that solo practitioners, attorneys representing low-income clients and pro se litigants might have less access to unpublished opinions. Thus, their introduction to litigation as opinions that may be cited might place these litigants at an unnecessary disadvantage. I have not studied the proposed rules change fully but do wish to bring these concerns to your attention.
Thank you.

John Trasvina
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