FILE COPY

SHERRY RADACK CHIEF JUSTICE

PETER KELLY Gordon Goodman Sarah Beth Landau Richard Hightower Julie Countiss Veronica Rivas-Molloy Amparo Guerra April L. Farris Justices



Court of Appeals First District 301 Fannin Street Houston, Texas 77002-2066

Thursday, September 8, 2022

Leslie Friedlander Office of the Attorney General of Texas PO Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548 * DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL *

John Bruster Loyd Jones, Gillaspia & Loyd, L.L.P. 4400 Post Oak Pkwy Ste 2360 Houston, TX 77027-3440 * DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL *

Candice Schwager The Schwager Law Firm 16807 Pinemoor Way Houston, TX 77058 * DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL *

Bobbie G. Bayless Bayless & Stokes 2931 Ferndale St. Houston, TX 77098 * DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL * Neal Evan Spielman Griffin & Matthews 1155 Dairy Ashford Rd Ste 300 Houston, TX 77079-3012 * DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL *

Stephen A. Mendel The Mendel Law Firm, L.P. 1155 Dairy Ashford, Suite 104 Houston, Tx 77079-3007 * DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL *

Cory Reed Thompson, Coe, Cousins & Irons, L.L.P. One Riverway Ste 1400 Houston, TX 77056 * DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL *

RE: Court of Appeals Number: 01-22-00514-CV Trial Court Case Number: 412249-401

Style: In re Candace Louise Curtis

Today, the First Court of Appeals issued an opinion(s) in the above-referenced cause.

Texas Rule of Appellate Procedure 49 dealing with rehearings and en banc consideration has been revised effective October 1, 2021. A complete copy of the revised rule is attached to this letter.

A copy of the opinion(s) can be obtained through Case Search on our Court's webpage at: <u>http://www.txcourts.gov/1stcoa</u>.

CHRISTOPHER A. PRINE CLERK OF THE COURT

JANET WILLIAMS CHIEF STAFF ATTORNEY

PHONE: 713-274-2700

www.txcourts.gov/1stcoa.aspx

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher A. Prine, Clerk

cc: Harris County Clerk's Office - Probate (DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL)
Judge Probate Ct #4 (DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL)
Hon. Presiding Judge, Eleventh Administrative Judicial Region (DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL)

Rule 49. Motion for Rehearing and En Banc Reconsideration

49.1. Motion for Rehearing

A motion for rehearing may be filed within 15 days after the court of appeals' judgment or order is rendered. The motion must clearly state the issues relied on for the rehearing.

49.2. Response to Motion for Rehearing

No response to a motion for rehearing need be filed unless the court so requests. The motion will not be granted unless a response has been filed or requested by the court.

49.3. Decision on Motion for Rehearing

A motion for rehearing may be granted by a majority of the justices who participated in the decision of the case. Unless two justices who participated in the decision of the case agree on the disposition of the motion for rehearing, the chief justice of the court of appeals must assign a justice to replace any justice who participated in the panel decision but cannot participate in deciding the motion for rehearing. If rehearing is granted, the court may dispose of the case with or without rebriefing and oral argument.

49.4. Further Motion for Rehearing

After a court decides a motion for rehearing, a further motion for rehearing may be filed within 15 days of the court's action if the court:

- (a) modifies its judgment;
- (b) vacates its judgment and renders a new judgment; or
- (c) issues a different opinion.

49.5. En Banc Reconsideration

A party may file a motion for en banc reconsideration as a separate motion, with or without filing a motion for rehearing. The motion must be filed within the time prescribed by Rule 49.1 for filing a motion for rehearing. The motion should address the standard for en banc consideration in Rule 41.2(c). No response to a motion for en banc reconsideration need be filed unless the court so requests. While the court has plenary power, a majority of the en banc court may, on its own initiative, order en banc reconsideration of a decision. If a majority orders reconsideration, the judgment or order does not become final, and the case will be resubmitted to the court for en banc review and disposition. The court may dispose of the case with or without rebriefing and oral argument.

49.6. Further Motion for En Banc Reconsideration

After a court decides a motion for en banc reconsideration, a further motion for en banc reconsideration may be filed within 15 days of the court's action if the court:

- (a) modifies its judgment;
- (b) vacates its judgment and renders a new judgment; or
- (c) issues a different opinion.

49.7. Accelerated Appeals

In an accelerated appeal, the appellate court may deny the right to file a motion for rehearing or en banc reconsideration or shorten the time to file such a motion.

49.8. Amendments

A motion for rehearing or en banc reconsideration may be amended as a matter of right anytime before the 15-day period allowed for filing the motion expires, and with leave of the court, anytime before the court of appeals decides the motion.

49.9. Extension of Time

A court of appeals may extend the time for filing a motion for rehearing or en banc reconsideration if a party files a motion complying with Rule 10.5(b) no later than 15 days after the last date for filing the motion.

49.10. Not Required for Review

A motion for rehearing or for en banc reconsideration is not a prerequisite to filing a petition for review in the Supreme Court or a petition for discretionary review in the Court of Criminal Appeals nor is it required to preserve error.

49.11. Relationship to Petition for Review

A party may not file a motion for rehearing or en banc reconsideration in the court of appeals after that party has filed a petition for review in the Supreme Court unless the court of appeals modifies its opinion or judgment after the petition for review is filed. The filing of a petition for review does not preclude another party from filing a motion for rehearing or en banc reconsideration or preclude the court of appeals from ruling on the motion. If a motion for rehearing or en banc reconsideration is timely filed after a petition for review is filed, the petitioner must immediately notify the Supreme Court clerk of the filing of the motion, and must notify the clerk when the last timely filed motion is overruled by the court of appeals.

49.12. Certificate of Conference Not Required

A certificate of conference is not required for a motion for rehearing or en banc reconsideration.

Notes and Comments

Comment to 1997 change: This is former Rule 100. Subdivision 49.4 is moved here from former Rule 43(h). Subdivisions 49.9 and 49.10 are added.

Comment to 2008 change: Rule 49 is revised to treat a motion for en banc reconsideration as having the effect of a motion for rehearing and to include procedures governing the filing of a motion for en banc reconsideration. Subdivision 49.5(c) is amended to clarify that a further motion for rehearing may be filed if the court issues a different opinion, irrespective of whether the opinion is issued in connection with the overruling of a prior motion for rehearing. Issuance of a new opinion that is not substantially different should not occasion a further motion for rehearing, but a motion's lack of merit does not affect appellate deadlines. The provisions of former Rule 53.7(b) that address motions for rehearing are moved to new subdivision 49.11 without change, leaving the provisions of Rule 53.7(b) that address petitions for rehearing and motions for en banc reconsideration from the certificate-of-conference requirement.

Comment to 2021 change: Rule 49 is revised to clarify when a motion for en banc reconsideration may be filed. A motion for en banc reconsideration must be filed by the deadline for filing an initial motion for rehearing under subdivision arranged. Amended subdivision 49.5 adds across-reference to the standard for en banc consideration in Rule 41.2(c).