

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:)	
)	
AMENDING ARIZONA CODE)	Administrative Order
OF JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION)	No. 2026 - <u>31</u>
SECTION § 7-209: ALTERNATIVE)	(affecting Administrative Order
BUSINESS STRUCTURES)	No. 2025-227)
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Proposed amendments to the above-captioned section of the Arizona Code of Judicial Administration (ACJA) came before the Arizona Judicial Council on March 12, 2026 and were approved and recommended for adoption.

Therefore, pursuant to Article VI, Section 3, of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that the amendments of ACJA § 7-209 as indicated on the attached document are adopted. All other provisions of § 7-209 remain unchanged and in effect.

Dated this 18th day of March, 2026.

ANN A. SCOTT TIMMER
Chief Justice

Arizona Code of Judicial Administration
Part 7: Administrative Office of the Courts
Chapter 2: Certification and Licensing Programs
Section 7-209: Alternative Business Structures

(Added text is shown underlined, deleted text by ~~strikethrough~~.)

A. through D. [No Change]

E. Licensure.

1. [No Change]

2. Committee Responsibilities.

a. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 33.1(b), the Committee must:

(1) Consider the following regulatory objectives:

- (a) protecting and promoting the public interest;
- (b) promoting access to legal services;
- (c) advancing the administration of justice and the rule of law;
- (d) encouraging an independent, strong, diverse, and effective legal profession; and
- (e) promoting and maintaining adherence to professional principles.

(2) Consider the foregoing regulatory objectives in light of the Supreme Court's jurisdiction given that licensure is sought in Arizona. See Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. 31(a). Licensure must, at least in part, further the regulatory objectives for persons located in Arizona.

(3) Ensure that lawyers practicing law with an ABS are or will be, at least in part, providing legal services to persons.

~~(2)~~(4) Ensure whether an applicant has adequate governance structures and policies in place to ensure:

- (a) lawyers providing legal services to consumers act with independence consistent with the lawyers' professional responsibilities;
- (b) the ABS maintains proper standards of work;
- (c) the lawyer makes decisions in the best interest of clients;
- (d) confidentiality consistent with Supreme Court Rule 42 is maintained; and
- (e) any other business policies or procedures do not interfere with a lawyers' duties and responsibilities to clients.

b. through d. [No Change]

e. Committee Recommendation. After due consideration:

(1) If the Committee determines that the applicant has demonstrated satisfaction of the regulatory objectives of Supreme Court Rule 33.1(b)(1) and (E)(2)(a); adequate governance structures and policies under Supreme Court Rule 33.1(b)(2); that its application is consistent with (E)(1)(a); the absence of the

(E)(2)(c) and (d) considerations; and compliance with the requirements of this section, section 7-201, and any other requirements established by the supreme court, the Committee must recommend that the supreme court approve the application.

(2) [No Change]

f. through o. [No Change]

3. through 7. [No Change]

F. through K. [No Change]