EMERGENCY ALERTS

Coronavirus Update

COVID-19 Vaccine: Safe, effective, free. Get the vaccine today: *Jun. 2nd, 2021, 9:25 am* Read more

COVID-19 Updates and Information: All restrictions lifted effective May 29 *Jun. 3rd, 2021, 12:01 am* Read more

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SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT RULES

Order in re: COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic

Supreme Judicial Court Order re: Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:16

ADOPTED DATE:

09/10/2020

EFFECTIVE DATE:

09/10/2020

REFERENCED SOURCES:

Rule 3:16: Practicing with Professionalism Course for new lawyers (/supreme-judicial-court-rules/supreme-judicial-court-rule-316-practicing-with-professionalism-course)

UPDATES:

Issued September 10, 2020, effective September 10, 2020 (https://www.mass.gov/media/2177161/download)

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Order

In light of the ongoing and urgent public health concerns regarding the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, the Supreme Judicial Court (SJC), pursuant to its rule-making authority, issues the following ORDER:

1. On May 14, 2020, the SJC issued a Temporary Emergency Order Re: Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:16, which suspended until further order of the court Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:16 and the requirement that lawyers newly admitted to the bar of the Commonwealth complete a Practicing with Professionalism Course within eighteen months of admission (May 14 Order).
2. Effective September 10, 2020, the May 14 Order is hereby repealed and Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:16 is reinstated.
3. To accommodate lawyers who were or may be unable to comply with Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:16 due to the prior suspension of the Rule and the unavailability of courses, lawyers admitted to the bar of the Commonwealth between September 10, 2018, and the date of this Order who have not yet completed a Practicing with Professionalism Course shall have twenty-four months from the date of their admission to do so. Lawyers admitted to the bar of the Commonwealth after the date of this Order must complete a Practicing with Professionalism Course within eighteen months of admission, in accordance with Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:16.
4. Course providers may offer the Practicing with Professionalism Course virtually (i.e. using videoconferencing or comparable technology).

This Order shall be effective on September 10, 2020, and shall remain in effect until further order of the court.

Downloads

SJC Order re Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:16

(https://www.mass.gov/doc/sjc-order-re-supreme-judicial-court-rule-316/download) (PDF 13.14 KB)

REFERENCED SOURCES:

Rule 3:16: Practicing with Professionalism Course for new lawyers
(/supreme-judicial-court-rules/supreme-judicial-court-rule-316-practicing-with-professionalism-course)

UPDATES:

Issued September 10, 2020, effective September 10, 2020 (https://www.mass.gov/media/2177161/download)

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Court system response to COVID-19 (/resource/court-system-response-to-covid-19)

Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:16: Practicing with Professionalism Course for new lawyers

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