Serial: 234464

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI
No. 2020-AD-00001-SCT
&
No. 89-R-99011-SCT

IN RE: EMERGENCY ORDER RELATED TO CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER-17

Before the Court is the Petition of the Mississippi Commission on Continuing Legal Education ("the Commission") to Temporarily Remove the Limit on CLE Credit Earned Through Online Programs. Due to concerns related to the Coronavirus, the Commission asks the Court to

> temporarily amend Rule 3 of the Rules and Regulations for Mandatory Continuing Legal Education to waive the in-person requirement for attorneys' continuing legal education obligation for the 2020-2021 reporting year so that attorneys will be allowed to earn CLE credits in the method of their choosing, either online, webinars or live, in-person programs.

After due consideration, the Supreme Court and the Chief Justice, in his capacity as chief administrative officer of all courts in the state, find that the Commission's motion should be granted.

Moreover, in light of the dangers created by the Coronavirus, the Supreme Court and the Chief Justice, in his capacity as chief administrative officer of all courts in the state, find the following additional actions are warranted:

(A) The requirements for newly licensed attorneys set forth in Rule 3b shall be temporarily amended to allow such attorneys to complete the new lawyer program through the method of their choosing, either online, webinars or live, in-person programs, as approved by the Commission.

(B) Any attorney who is unable to complete the temporarily amended requirements

set forth in this Order may seek a hardship exemption and/or extension from the Commission.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Petition of the Mississippi Commission on Continuing Legal Education to Temporarily Remove the Limit on CLE Credit Earned Through Online Programs is hereby granted. For the 2020-2021 CLE reporting year, attorneys may complete their CLE obligations set forth in Rule 3 through online, webinars or live, in-person programs. Such CLE courses must comply with the remaining provisions of Rules 3 and 4. Any attorney who is unable to comply with the temporary amendments may seek a hardship exemption and/or extension from the Commission.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the new lawyer program set forth in Rule 3b shall be amended to allow newly admitted lawyers who are to complete the program by July 31, 2021, to complete the required courses through online, webinars or live, in-person programs, as approved by the Commission. Any newly admitted attorney who is unable to comply with the temporary amendments may seek a hardship exemption and/or extension from the Commission.

ALL JUSTICES AGREE.

SO ORDERED.

DIGITAL SIGNATURE
Order#: 234464
Sig Serial: 100002905
Org: SC
Date: 12/01/2020

Michael K. Randolph, Chief Justice