IN THE SUPREME COURT, STATE OF WYOMING

April Term, A.D. 2020

In the Matter of the Adoption of	***)***
Rule 203 of the Rules and Procedures	***)***
Governing Admission to the	***)***
Practice of Law	***)***

ORDER ADOPTING RULE 203 OF THE RULES AND PROCEDURES GOVERNING ADMISSION TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW

This matter came before the Court upon a "Petition for Implementation of Emergency Rule," filed herein April 9, 2020, by the Board of Law Examiners for the Wyoming State Bar (Board) and the Character and Fitness Committee of the Wyoming State Bar (Committee), by and through Bar Counsel for the Wyoming State Bar. In the petition, the Board and the Committee inform the Court of the need for an admission rule to accommodate applicants for the July 2020 bar exam, which may or may not be administered, due to the COVID 19 pandemic. The Board and Committee recommend the Court adopt a rule that authorizes those applicants to be temporarily admitted to the practice of law, if certain conditions are met. This Court finds the proposed rule should be adopted. This Court notes Rule 203 is conditional on the bar exam NOT being administered in July 2020. It is, therefore,

ORDERED that Rule 203 of the Rules and Procedures Governing Admission to the Practice of Law, attached hereto, is adopted by the Court to be effective immediately; and it is further

ORDERED that this order and the attached rule shall be published in the advance sheets of the Pacific Reporter; the attached rule shall be published in the Wyoming Court Rules Volume; and that this order and the attached rule shall be published online at the Wyoming Judicial Branch's website, http://www.courts.state.wy.us. The rule shall also be recorded in the journal of this Court.

DATED this 10th day of April, 2020.

BY THE COURT:

/s/

MICHAEL K. DAVIS
Chief Justice

Rules and Procedures Governing Admission to the Practice of Law

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SECTION II
APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION BY EXAMINATION
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Rule 203. Practice Pending Admission.

(a) An eligible individual who has submitted a timely application for admission by examination for the July 2020 Uniform Bar Examination in Wyoming is granted temporary admission to the Wyoming State Bar, provided the applicant:

(1) Has been awarded a juris doctor degree from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association and has not sat for a bar examination in Wyoming or any other jurisdiction prior to February 2021;

(2) Has been determined by the Character and Fitness Committee to possess the requisite good moral character and fitness to practice law;

(3) Is not currently subject to an order of attorney discipline or the subject of a pending formal disciplinary or disability investigation in any jurisdiction;

(4) Has not been denied admission to practice law in Wyoming nor denied admission on character and fitness grounds in any jurisdiction;

(5) Is subject to the disciplinary authority of Wyoming and shall comply with all ethics and related rules of this jurisdiction, including specifically but not limited to rules requiring truthful and non-misleading advertising or other public statements concerning his or her limited authority to practice;

(6) Associates with and is supervised by an active member in good standing of the Wyoming State Bar and discloses the name, address, and membership status of the supervising attorney, which disclosure shall be filed with the Court and the Wyoming State Bar;

(7) Files a signed verification form from the supervising attorney certifying the applicant's association with and supervision by that attorney with the Wyoming Supreme Court and the Wyoming State Bar;

(8) Affirmatively states in all written (including electronic) communications with the public and clients the following language: "Practice temporarily authorized pending admission to the Wyoming State Bar," and, in the initial consultation, affirmatively informs prospective clients with whom the applicant meets (whether in person, by phone or any other means) of the applicant's temporary authorization to practice pending admission to the Wyoming State Bar; and

(9) The supervising attorney shall be identified as such in all papers submitted to a court, government agency or authority, or alternative dispute resolution tribunal, on which the applicant's name appears.

(b) Verification. Upon an applicant's satisfactory completion of the application process and provided that the applicant is certified to have the requisite good moral character and fitness to practice law and the applicant has met all of the requirements of this rule, the Board and the Committee shall certify their recommendations to the Court that the applicant is eligible for temporary admission pursuant to this rule. Applicants who are granted temporary admission pursuant to this rule are not required to comply with the attorney's oath provisions of Rule 504.

(c) Automatic Termination. The authority in this rule shall terminate immediately if the applicant:

(1) Withdraws the application for admission by examination;

(2) Fails to obtain a passing score on the first Uniform Bar Examination administered in Wyoming following adoption of this rule;

(3) Fails to submit a timely passing score on the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination;

(4) Is subject to a formal charge in a disciplinary proceeding.

(5) The supervising attorney ceases to be an active member in good standing of the Wyoming State Bar; or

(6) The supervising attorney withdraws the verification required by this rule.

(d) Required Action After Termination of Authority. Upon termination of authority to practice law pursuant to this rule, the applicant must notify in writing all clients in pending matters, and opposing counsel and co-counsel in pending litigation, of the termination of authority, and immediately cease practicing law in Wyoming.

(e) This rule shall remain in effect until December 31, 2020, and will continue to apply to any applicants granted temporary admission pursuant to this rule prior to that date.

(f) Plenary Authority. The Court, in its discretion, may extend the time limits set forth in this rule for good cause shown.

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