FILED
MAR 11 2021
CLERK SUPREME COURT

In the Iowa Supreme Court

In the Matter of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 Impact on Attorney Well-Being and the Iowa Lawyers Assistance Program	))))	**Order**

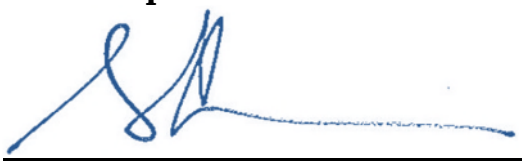
Working as an attorney or judge is a challenging occupation. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has increased the stress on Iowa attorneys and judges both personally and professionally. The Iowa Lawyers Assistance Program exists to help attorneys and judges in dealing with sources of stress, including but not limited to substance abuse. To better facilitate referrals to this program and enhance its efficacy, the court issues the following order. This order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure of Information to the Iowa Lawyers Assistance Program.

If the Assistant Director for Attorney Discipline (Assistant Director) believes that an attorney may benefit from the services of the Iowa Lawyers Assistance Program, the Assistant Director may make an informal referral to the Iowa Lawyers Assistance Program and may share information deemed confidential under Iowa Court Rule 35.4 as part of that referral. The Assistant Director may, but is not required to, notify the subject attorney of the informal referral or transmission of confidential information to the Iowa Lawyers Assistance Program. Unless the subject attorney has signed a release allowing the Iowa Lawyers Assistance Program to share information with the Attorney Disciplinary Board, the Iowa Lawyers Assistance Program shall not report information about the subject attorney to the Assistant Director or to any staff of the Attorney Disciplinary Board.

Dated this 11th day of March, 2021.

The Iowa Supreme Court

By: 

Susan Larson Christensen, Chief Justice

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