# Supreme Court of Kentucky

#### 2025-06

#### ORDER

# In Re: Amending the Supreme Court Rules

The following amendments to the Supreme Court Rules shall be effective January 6, 2025:

#### SCR 2.000 Office of Bar Admissions

SCR 2.000 shall read:

There is hereby created an Office of Bar Admissions which shall be comprised of the Kentucky Board of Bar Examiners ("Board"), as defined in SCR 2.020, and the Character and Fitness Committee ("Committee"), as defined in SCR 2.040.

Subject to the approval of the Supreme Court of Kentucky, the Board and Committee shall have the power to adopt and amend rules and regulations governing the manner in which each carries out its duties.

# SCR 2.002 Fiscal provisions

SCR 2.002 shall read:

- (1) The fees collected by the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions shall be deposited in a restricted fund account held by the Administrative Office of the Courts to provide for the ordinary and necessary expenses of the administration of the bar examination and the operation of both the Board of Bar Examiners and the Character and Fitness Committee.
- (2) An annual budget including all income and expenditures shall be prepared by the Board and the Committee in consultation with the Budget Director for the Judicial Branch and submitted to the Supreme Court not less than one month prior to the commencement of the next fiscal year. The budget shall distinctly set forth expected revenues according to source, together with carryover funds from the previous year, and shall list budgeted amounts for each category of expenditure in sufficient detail to clearly identify the nature of the respective expenditures.

- (3) Upon approval by the Court, the budget shall govern the fiscal operation of the Board and the Committee. Expenditures may exceed the authorized budget by not more than ten percent subject to availability of funds. Expenditures exceeding the authorized budget by more than ten percent may be made only upon approval of the Court.
- (4) The restricted fund account held by the Administrative Office of the Courts to provide for the expenses of the administration of the bar examination and the operation of the Board and the Committee shall be included in the annual financial statements for the Judicial Branch of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, prepared by the Administrative Office of the Courts and subject to annual external audit pursuant to the Rules of Administrative Procedure Part XIX.
- (5) The Board and the Committee may employ such personnel as the Court authorizes. Their compensation shall be fixed by the Board and the Committee subject to approval by the Court. The compensation of members of the Board and Committee shall be fixed by the Court.
- (6) Printing and purchasing shall be regulated by procedures established through the Administrative Office of the Courts except that the duplicating of bar examinations shall be accomplished in such manner as the Board designates in order to preserve the security thereof.

# SCR 2.007 Qualification, compensation, and expenses of Board of Bar Examiners and Character and Fitness Committee

SCR 2.007 shall read:

Each member of the Board of Bar Examiners and each attorney member of the Character and Fitness Committee shall have the qualifications of a circuit judge and shall be an active member of the Kentucky Bar in good standing. Except for compensated expenses and allowances for services rendered as members of the Board and of the Committee as authorized by the Supreme Court to be paid out of special funds for such purposes, no member of the Board of Bar Examiners and no member of the Character and Fitness Committee shall knowingly receive, or agree to receive, directly or indirectly, compensation for any services rendered or to be rendered, either by himself/herself or another, in any matter which is before the Kentucky Supreme Court relating to the admission of a person to practice law in this state. As appointees of the Supreme Court, neither the members of the Board of Bar Examiners nor the members of the Character and Fitness Committee

constitute officers or employees of any agency within the meaning of KRS 45A.335 and 45A.340.

# **SCR 2.008 Confidentiality**

SCR 2.008 shall read:

An applicant is entitled to receive his or her test scores and/or any items approved for release by the National Conference of Bar Examiners upon written request and without charge. The Office of Bar Admissions shall not disclose to anyone other than an applicant any information with respect to the character and fitness investigation or the examination results of any applicant except:

- (a) upon written authority of such applicant and upon payment of any fees required by the Board for copies of such reports;
- (b) in response to a valid subpoena from a Court of competent jurisdiction;
  - (c) to the Director, Kentucky Bar Association;
- (d) upon request by a disciplinary enforcement agency or a Character and Fitness Committee or equivalent body of any jurisdiction, relating to an investigation of the applicant; or
- (e) to the National Conference of Bar Examiners for purposes of scoring examinations and to certify and transfer an applicant's examination scores to other jurisdictions upon request by the applicant.

# SCR 2.010 Requirements for admission to the Kentucky bar

SCR 2.010 shall read:

All applicants for admission to the Bar of this Commonwealth must meet certain basic requirements regardless of whether admission is sought by examination (SCR 2.022), by transferred Uniform Bar Examination score (SCR 2.090), without examination (SCR 2.110), for a limited certificate (SCR 2.111), or as an attorney participant in a defender or legal services program (SCR 2.112). Those requirements are set forth in the following sections SCR 2.011 through SCR 2.017.

#### SCR 2.011 Moral character and fitness

SCR 2.011 shall read:

All applicants for admission to the Bar of this Commonwealth must be of good moral character and general fitness requisite for an attorney.

- (1) Every applicant shall be of good moral character. The applicant shall have the burden of proving that he or she is possessed of good moral character. The term "good moral character" includes qualities of honesty, fairness, responsibility, knowledge of the laws of the Commonwealth and the nation, and respect for the rights of others and for the judicial process. Good moral character is a functional assessment of character and fitness of a prospective lawyer. The purpose of requiring an applicant to possess present good moral character is to exclude from the practice of law those persons possessing character traits that are likely to result in injury to future clients, in the obstruction of the administration of justice, or in a violation of the Code of Professional Responsibility.
- (2) Fitness is the assessment of mental and emotional health as it affects the competence of a prospective lawyer. The purpose of requiring an applicant to possess this fitness is to exclude from the practice of law any person having a mental health disorder or condition which would be likely to prevent the person from carrying out duties to clients, Courts, or the profession. A person may be of good moral character, but may be incapacitated from proper discharge of his or her duties as a lawyer by such disorder or condition. The fitness required is a present fitness, and prior mental health disorders or conditions are relevant only so far as they indicate the existence of a present lack of fitness.
- (3) If the Committee's initial review and investigation into the character and fitness of an applicant reveals any of the following conduct, further detailed investigation shall be undertaken, as determined to be warranted, prior to the Committee's determination regarding whether the applicant possesses the requisite character and fitness to practice law in Kentucky:
  - A. Unlawful conduct
  - B. Academic misconduct
  - C. Making a false statement, including omissions of material information
    - D. Misconduct in employment

- E. Acts involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation
- F. Abuse of legal process
- G. Neglect of financial responsibilities
- H. Neglect or disregard of ethical or professional obligations
- I. Violation of an order of court
- J. Conduct indicating a mental health disorder or condition impairing the ability of an applicant to perform the functions of an attorney
- K. Conduct indicating a substance use disorder impairing the ability of an applicant to perform the functions of an attorney
- L. Denial of admission to the Bar in another jurisdiction on character and fitness grounds
- M. Disciplinary complaints or disciplinary action by an attorney disciplinary agency or a professional disciplinary agency of any jurisdiction.
- (4) Each applicant for admission to the Kentucky Bar shall pay all investigative fees, reporting fees or other expenses required and assessed by the Character and Fitness Committee as deemed necessary in determining the character and fitness of the applicant.

#### SCR 2.012 Oath of allegiance

SCR 2.012 shall read:

No person who advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States or of this Commonwealth by any unconstitutional means, shall be certified to the Supreme Court of Kentucky for admission and a license to practice law. Therefore, every applicant shall be required to take the oath to support the Constitutions of the United States and Kentucky.

# SCR 2.013 Intent to practice law in the Commonwealth

SCR 2.013 shall read:

Every applicant must intend to engage in the practice of law in Kentucky and agree to abide by the rules, duties, and standards imposed upon attorneys of this Commonwealth. No person shall seek admission to the Bar of Kentucky for the primary purpose of using such admission as a basis for obtaining admission to the Bar of another jurisdiction or to circumvent the admission requirements of another jurisdiction. The giving of erroneous information as to intention to practice law in the Commonwealth of Kentucky shall be grounds for denying the applicant's application or for disbarment.

# SCR 2.015 Professional responsibility examinations

SCR 2.015 shall read:

- (1) No person shall be eligible for admission to the Kentucky Bar until that person has first passed the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners by attaining a scaled score thereon of at least 80.
- (2) No person shall sit for the Bar Examination administered under SCR 2.080, 3.500 or 3.510 without first passing the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners by attaining a scaled score thereon of at least 80.

#### **SCR 2.018 Application process**

SCR 2.018 shall read:

(1) All applications for admission to the Kentucky Bar shall be submitted on forms approved by the Board and Committee. Application forms are accessible electronically on the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions website, www.kyoba.org. All portions of the application, except submission of documents requiring the notarized signature of the applicant, shall be submitted electronically. Before the applicable deadline, required signed and notarized documents shall be sent to the Office of Bar Admissions by USPS mail or hand delivery.

- (2) The applicant must give full and complete response(s) to all inquiries on the application as well as furnish any additional documents requested in relation to the application.
- (3) Any applicant who submits an incomplete application by failing to upload the required credit report with said application will be notified of the error, and given an opportunity to upload the required documentation and pay therewith a non-refundable fee of \$20.00. No action will be taken by the Office of Bar Admissions upon an incomplete application.
- (4) In signing the notarized signature page of the application, the applicant attests to the accuracy of all information contained therein. All answers on the application form must be completely candid. Lack of candor may result in possible denial of character and fitness certification. Applicants must disclose in writing on the application any circumstances or occurrences that may reflect adversely upon their character or fitness.

#### **SCR 2.020** Board of Bar Examiners

SCR 2.020 shall read:

- (1) There is hereby created a Board of Bar Examiners known and designated as the Kentucky Board of Bar Examiners.
- (2) The Board shall be composed of seven (7) attorneys appointed by the Supreme Court of Kentucky for terms of three years, the members to serve until the expirations of their terms and until their successors are appointed. The Supreme Court of Kentucky shall appoint the Chair of the Board, and the Board shall select from its membership a Secretary.
- (3) The Board is charged with the responsibility of administering the bar examination to qualified applicants for admission to the Bar of the Commonwealth.

# SCR 2.022 Application for admission by examination

SCR 2.022 shall read:

The Application for Admission by Examination shall be on a verified form approved by the Board and may not be filed more than 90 days before the filing deadline outlined below.

- (1) Every person who intends to apply for admission to the Kentucky Bar by examination must electronically submit a complete, verified Application for Admission by Examination form and pay the required fee to the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions. An application must be complete at the time of its filing, including a properly executed Authorization & Release form; and must include the following fee:
  - (a) Applicants not previously admitted to practice law-\$875.00
  - (b) Attorney applicants admitted in another jurisdiction-\$1,200.00

The filing deadline is October 1 for the February Bar examination and February 1 for the July Bar examination.

- (2) Additional costs will be imposed if required by the Character and Fitness Committee in conducting the background investigation necessary for certification of eligibility. These additional costs are incurred when circumstances require a more intensive background investigation. The cost of any record, document, or inquiry concerning an application or transcript of record as a result of a hearing shall be paid by the applicant. Any additional expenses incurred must be paid prior to the release of any examination results for the applicant.
- (3) Upon notice from the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions, the Deans of each law school shall file individual certifications attesting to each applicant's character and fitness and date of graduation. The Dean's certification shall be specific as to each applicant and on a form provided by the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions.
- (4) Any applicant whose application to the Bar of another jurisdiction has been refused for any reason is ineligible to take the Bar examination in this Commonwealth unless the refusal was based upon a failure to pass the Bar examination in that jurisdiction.
- (5) Any applicant who is a member of the Bar in another jurisdiction must produce a certificate of good standing with the application. The applicant must also produce a statement from the disciplinary board or equivalent body of that jurisdiction indicating whether any complaints have been filed against the applicant and their disposition. Any applicant who has a complaint(s) pending, is under disciplinary action, suspended, or any other action that would prohibit the practice of law as a member of the Bar in another jurisdiction is not eligible for admission in Kentucky. Any applicant who is disbarred in another jurisdiction is not eligible for admission in Kentucky.

- (6) An applicant who wishes to withdraw from the Bar examination must notify the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions, in writing, not later than 5 days prior to the examination date or have a verified excuse; otherwise, the Bar examination fee of \$175.00 shall be forfeited.
- (7) No part of any fees or expenses as stated in the paragraphs above shall be refundable.

# SCR 2.023 Late filing of application for admission by examination

SCR 2.023 shall read:

- (1) An applicant who has failed to timely file an Application for Admission by Examination under SCR 2.022 may file a late Application for Admission by Examination form from October 2 to November 10, prior to the February Bar examination and from February 2, to March 10 for the July Bar examination, accompanied by a late fee of \$250.00 along with the application fee.
- (2) An applicant who has failed to file an Application for Admission by Examination form by the late deadlines prescribed in paragraph (1) of this rule, may file under the extended late deadlines of November 11 to December 10 for the February Bar examination and March 11 to May 10 for the July Bar examination accompanied by an extended late fee of \$500.00 along with the application fee.
- (3) When an Application for Admission by Examination form is filed later than the prescribed deadlines of SCR 2.022, the Committee will determine whether or not the applicant is permitted to take the forthcoming examination.
- (4) Under no circumstances will an application to sit for the Bar examination be accepted after the above stated extended late filing deadline.

# SCR 2.040 Character and Fitness Committee; nominations

SCR 2.040 shall read:

- (1) There is hereby created a Committee on Character and Fitness.
- (2) The Committee shall be composed of seven attorneys and two lay members, appointed by the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court may appoint additional members upon request of the Committee or at its own discretion. The Supreme Court shall appoint the Chair of the Committee. The lay members

appointed to the Committee should have training in substance use disorder, mental health disorders/treatment, financial management, or another area of value to the assessment of good moral character and fitness to practice law.

- (3) The terms of all members shall be three years.
- (4) Subject to the approval of the Supreme Court, the Committee shall have the power to adopt and amend rules and regulations governing the manner in which it carries out its duties.
- (5) The Committee is charged with the responsibility of determining the age, character and fitness, education, and general qualifications of those applicants for admission to the Bar of the Commonwealth whose applications are referred to it by the Clerk of the Supreme Court. The Committee is further charged with the duty of certifying to the Supreme Court persons who appear qualified to perform legal services as interns under Rule 2.540.
- (6) The Committee, in determining the character and fitness of an applicant for admission to the Bar of the Commonwealth, and in determining the character and fitness of a person seeking to perform legal services as an intern under Rule 2.540, may have such persons investigated by the National Conference of Bar Examiners or any other reputable investigative agency. Subject to the approval of the Supreme Court, the Character and Fitness Committee may compensate any person or agency making such investigation out of funds held for that purpose.
- (7) The Committee shall submit to the Board of Bar Examiners the names and addresses of all applicants to take the examination who will be eligible upon approval from the standpoint of character and fitness and upon submission of the required recommendations of their law school deans. Said list shall be submitted no later than 30 days after the extended late deadline. At least ten days prior to each Bar examination the Committee shall certify to the Secretary of the Board of Bar Examiners the names and addresses of all applicants who are qualified to take that Bar examination.
- (8) From time to time, the Committee shall recommend to the Supreme Court admission to the Bar without examination of applicants for such admission who qualify therefor under the provisions of SCR 2.090, 2.110, 2.111, and 2.112.
- (9) The Committee shall have the power to issue subpoenas and to assess costs as it shall determine necessary.

# SCR 2.050 Formal hearings

SCR 2.050 shall read:

- (1) In the event an area of concern appears, whether on the application or is discovered during the investigation process, the applicant may be requested to appear before one or more Committee member(s) for an informal interview.
- (2) Any member of the Committee may refer an applicant to the full Committee with a recommendation that a formal hearing be conducted. If a majority of the Committee agrees, a formal hearing will be scheduled for the applicant. The applicant shall be given written notice of the date, time, and place of said hearing not less than fourteen days prior to the hearing. The hearing shall be of record and the applicant may have counsel present and may present testimony. The costs involved in this hearing shall be included with costs outlined in SCR 2.011. At the time a formal hearing is requested, the applicant will be notified in writing that he or she may not sit for the bar examination unless a final decision is submitted by the Committee prior to the examination.
- (3) A written recommendation will be submitted by the Committee to the Supreme Court either recommending the applicant be certified from a character and fitness standpoint to sit for the bar examination or that the applicant be denied certification of character and fitness at that time. The applicant shall be supplied a copy of the recommendation. If said recommendation results in denial of the applicant's certification to sit for the bar examination, the applicant has the right to appeal such decision, as noted in SCR 2.060.

# SCR 2.060 Committee's decision as to eligibility

SCR 2.060 shall read:

The decision of the Character and Fitness Committee as to the eligibility of an applicant for admission to the Bar of this Commonwealth shall be final unless, on motion by the applicant filed within 30 days after notice of an adverse decision has been mailed to applicant's last known address, the Supreme Court upon review of the record overrules such decision.

#### SCR 2.080 Bar examinations

SCR 2.080 shall read:

- (1) The Board of Bar Examiners shall examine such applicants as are certified to it as provided in SCR 2.040. The examination shall cover a period of two days and may cover the subjects and skills tested on the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE), as published on the website of the National Conference of Bar Examiners at www.ncbex.org.
- (2) Beginning with the February 2021 Bar examination, the Board shall administer the UBE prepared by the National Conference of Bar Examiners and consisting of a written portion composed of the Multistate Essay Examinations (MEE) and the Multistate Performance Test (MPT), and the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE).
- (3) The Board of Bar Examiners shall, thirty (30) days before each examination, report to the Supreme Court information regarding the examination, including, but not limited to, its location, number of applicants, special accommodations, and any other relevant information as determined by the Board.
- (4) To pass the bar examination in Kentucky, an applicant must achieve a UBE total score equal to or greater than 266. In calculating UBE total scores, the MEE is weighted 30%, the MPT is weighted 20%, and the MBE is weighted 50%. The National Conference of Bar Examiners will score the MBE, calculate scaled scores on the written portion by the methodology used for all UBE jurisdictions, and combine the scaled scores from the written portion and the MBE to produce UBE total scores. Applicants must sit for all portions of the bar examination in the same administration in order to qualify for admission in Kentucky and earn a portable UBE score that may be transferred to other UBE jurisdictions. Applicants who fail to earn the score required by the Board in five or fewer attempts on the Kentucky Bar Examination, including attempts on the UBE taken in Kentucky or any other jurisdiction in February 2021 or after, shall not be permitted to sit for the Kentucky Bar Examination.
- (5) For any applicant who completes the examination in written form, the papers containing the questions and answers given by the applicants to the written portion of the examination will be preserved by the Secretary of the Board for a period of one year from the time that the application for admission has been passed upon by the Supreme Court, and longer if so ordered by the Court.

(6) Upon recommendation of the Board, the Supreme Court may appoint qualified members of the bar, to be known as Bar Examination Graders, to assist the Board in the grading of examination papers. Persons so appointed shall hold those positions for terms of one year and until the appointment of their successors.

#### SCR 2.082 Nonstandard test accommodations

SCR 2.082 shall read:

- (1) The bar examination shall be administered by the Board of Bar Examiners to all eligible applicants in a manner that is fair and equitable.
- (2) An applicant with a disability, who is eligible to take the bar examination, may file an application for reasonable nonstandard test accommodations. For the purpose of this rule, disability shall be defined as a physical or mental impairment that: (a) substantially limits one or more major life activities; (b) substantially limits the ability of an applicant to demonstrate, under standard test conditions, the skills, abilities, and knowledge tested on the Kentucky Bar Examination; (c) this applicant has a record of having; or (d) this applicant is regarded as having.
- (3) An Application for Nonstandard Test Accommodations shall be submitted on a form approved by the Board. The application forms may be obtained from the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions.
- (4) Individuals requesting nonstandard test accommodations shall submit a complete Application for Nonstandard Test Accommodations, including all required supporting documentation by the filing deadlines prescribed in SCR 2.022(1).
- (5) The Board shall make reasonable modification in the manner in which the examination is administered to an applicant with a disability whose application for nonstandard test accommodations has been approved by the Board, while maintaining the security and integrity of the examination.
- (6) An emergency request for nonstandard accommodations may be filed after the prescribed deadlines stated above if the applicant did not have the disability at the time of filing the application to take the bar examination. Due to processing complexities, an emergency request may not be granted if: a) time constraints preclude the applicant from being able to provide necessary justification for the accommodations sought; or b) there is insufficient time for

the bar examining authority to properly evaluate the applicant's request or make the necessary arrangements for the nonstandard test accommodations.

# SCR 2.090 Admission by Transferred Uniform Bar Examination Score

SCR 2.090 shall read:

- (1) A person who meets all requirements of subparagraphs (a) through (j) of paragraph 2 of this Rule may be admitted to the practice of law in Kentucky.
- (2) The applicant shall submit evidence to the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions that he or she:
  - (a) has earned a UBE score 266 or higher in five or fewer attempts on the UBE taken in any jurisdiction;
  - (b) has earned the score required in subparagraph (2)(a) in an administration of the UBE that occurred within five years of the date of application for admission pursuant to this Rule;
  - (c) intends to engage in the practice of law in Kentucky as set out in SCR 2.013, 3.020, and 3.022;
    - (d) meets the educational requirements set out in SCR 2.014;
  - (e) has achieved the required score on the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination as set out in SCR 2.015;
  - (f) is a member in good standing in all jurisdictions where the applicant has been admitted;
  - (g) is not currently subject to lawyer discipline or the subject of a pending disciplinary complaint or matter in any jurisdiction;
  - (h) possesses the good character and fitness to practice law in Kentucky as determined by the Character and Fitness Committee; and
  - (i) certifies that he or she has read, is familiar with, and will follow the Kentucky Rules of Professional Conduct.
- (3) The Application for Admission by Transferred Uniform Bar Examination Score shall be filed with the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions on a verified form approved by the Board. The application shall be accompanied by

a nonrefundable fee of \$875 for applicants whose UBE score was reported not more than 12 months before the application date, as measured from the date the score was released by the National Conference of Bar Examiners, and \$1,200.00 for applicants whose UBE score was reported more than 12 months before the application date, along with written confirmation issued by the National Conference of Bar Examiners that the applicant has submitted a request for an Official UBE Transcript to be sent directly to Kentucky. An applicant shall file with the Character and Fitness Committee such other affidavits, certificates, documents, and materials as shall be required to satisfy the Committee, pursuant to SCR 2.040, of the applicant's good moral character and fitness to be a member of the Bar of this Commonwealth.

(4) The Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions shall begin accepting applications under this rule as of January 1, 2021.

#### SCR 2.110 Admission without examination

#### SCR 2.110 shall read:

- (1) Any person who has been admitted to practice in another jurisdiction and who has been engaged in the active practice of law as defined in SCR 3.020 and 3.022, in a jurisdiction which has reciprocity or comity with Kentucky, for five of the seven years next preceding the filing of an application may be admitted to the Bar of this Commonwealth without examination provided the applicant meets all requirements for admission to the Bar under these Rules. Active engagement in the teaching of the law, full time at an American Bar Association accredited law school, shall be considered active engagement in the practice of law.
- (2) An attorney applying for admission under this Rule shall file with the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions, on the form provided for application for admission, such information as shall be requested thereon accompanied by a fee of \$1500.00, no part of which shall be refunded. An applicant shall file with the Character and Fitness Committee such other affidavits, certificates, documents, and materials as shall be required to satisfy the Committee of the applicant's good moral character and fitness to be a member of the Bar of this Commonwealth. With respect to character and fitness, the Committee shall process such applications pursuant to Rule 2.040.
- (3) Admission under this Rule shall be conditioned on the applicant establishing that the jurisdiction from which the applicant applies and in which the applicant performs the major portion of his or her professional activities has rules or other provisions providing for admission without

examination and by reciprocity or comity which are no more restrictive than the rules of this Commonwealth.

(4) Notwithstanding the requirements stated above, if the applicant has practiced five of the last seven years in a jurisdiction that permits the admission without examination of attorneys from Kentucky, the Committee may approve admission without examination under the same provisions that allow admission of Kentucky attorneys.

# SCR 2.111 Limited certificate of admission to practice law

#### SCR 2.111 shall read:

- (1) Every attorney not a member of the Bar of this Commonwealth who performs legal services in this Commonwealth solely for his or her employer, its parent, subsidiary, or affiliated entities, shall file with the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions on a form provided an application for a limited certificate of admission to practice law in this Commonwealth. Such application shall be reviewed by the Character and Fitness Committee. If approved, a limited certificate of admission to practice law shall be granted, and shall be effective as of the date such application is approved, provided that the following prerequisites are satisfied:
  - (a) The applicant must be admitted to practice in the highest court of another jurisdiction and be a member in good standing at the Bar of such jurisdiction, at the time of filing such application.
  - (b) The attorney applying for a limited certificate of admission to practice law shall sign a sworn statement certifying to the Supreme Court that the applicant:
    - (i) Has completed the study of law in an accredited law school;
    - (ii) Has been admitted to practice in the highest Court of another jurisdiction;
    - (iii) Is presently in good standing at the Bar of such Court, or such jurisdiction;
    - (iv) Will perform legal services in this Commonwealth solely for his or her employer, its parent, subsidiary, affiliated entities, or on a pro bono basis as permitted under paragraph (4)(c) below.

- (c) A statement signed by a representative of such applicant's employer stating that such applicant is an employee for such employer, and performs legal services in this Commonwealth for such employer, its parent, subsidiary, or affiliated entities, shall be filed with the application.
- (2) Such applicant shall pay to the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions, at the time of submission of such application, a fee of \$1,500.00 and shall make payment of the current annual dues or fees to the Kentucky Bar Association, as authorized under SCR 3.040.
- (3) Upon granting of such limited certificate of admission to practice law, and issuance of said limited certificate by the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Kentucky, such applicant shall be and shall remain, during the period the limited certificate of admission to practice law remains in effect, an active member of the Kentucky Bar Association, subject to all duties and obligations of members admitted under SCR 2.110, SCR 2.120, and SCR 3.645.
- (4) The following restrictions and limitations shall apply to such attorney's right to practice in this Commonwealth:
  - (a) Such attorney shall perform legal services in this Commonwealth solely for his employer, its parent, subsidiary, or affiliated entities, and shall not provide legal services in this Commonwealth, to any other individual or entity, except as permitted under paragraph (4)(c) below.
  - (b) Such attorney shall not appear as attorney of record for his employer, its parent, subsidiary, or affiliated entities, in any case or matter pending before the Courts of this Commonwealth, without first engaging an active member of the Bar Association in good standing, admitted under SCR 2.120 or SCR 2.110 other than one admitted under a limited certificate of admission, as co-counsel, whose presence shall be necessary, when required by the Court, at all trials or other times specified by the Court. Nothing herein shall prevent such attorney from appearing in any case or matter to which the attorney is a party, or appearing in the Small Claims Division of the District Court as otherwise provided in SCR 3.020.
  - (c) An attorney admitted with a limited practice certificate under this rule is authorized to donate legal services in Kentucky through: [i] a duly organized legal aid program offering pro bono representation to indigent individuals within the Commonwealth of Kentucky, or [ii] a local

bar association legal pro bono program or initiative. No fee can be accepted by the attorney with a limited practice certificate for the rendering of any legal services in connection with items [i] and [ii] above. An attorney donating legal services under this rule is subject to all duties and obligations of members admitted under SCR 2.110, SCR 2.120, and 3.645.

- (5) The performance of legal services in this Commonwealth solely for such attorney's employer, its parent, subsidiary, affiliated entities, or in connection with a pro bono program contained in paragraph 4(c) following admission to the Kentucky Bar on a limited certificate shall be considered to be the active engagement in the practice of law for all purposes.
- (6) The limited certificate of admission to practice law in this Commonwealth shall expire if such attorney is granted a certificate of admission to practice, or is admitted to the Bar of this Commonwealth under any other rule of this Court, or if such attorney ceases to be an employee for the employer or its parent, subsidiary, or affiliated entities listed on such attorney's application. However, if such attorney, within thirty (30) days of ceasing to be an employee for the employer or its parent, subsidiary, or affiliated entities listed on such attorney's application, becomes employed by another employer for which such attorney shall solely perform legal services, such attorney may maintain his or her admission under this Rule by promptly filing with the Clerk of the Supreme Court a statement to such effect, stating the date on which his or her prior employment ceased and his or her new employment commenced, identifying his or her new employer and reaffirming that he or she shall not provide legal services, in this Commonwealth, to any other individual or entity. If an attorney admitted under this rule ceases employment with no subsequent employment by a successor employer within thirty (30) days, such attorney shall promptly file with the Clerk of the Supreme Court, the Office of Bar Admissions, and the Kentucky Bar Association a written statement to such effect, stating the date that such employment ceased.
- (7) Except as specifically limited herein, the rules, rights, and privileges governing the practice of law shall be applicable to an attorney admitted under this Rule.

# SCR 2.112 Limited admission for attorney participants in a public defender, legal services programs, or office of a Commonwealth's or county attorney

#### SCR 2.112 shall read:

- (1) **Scope.** This Rule applies to an attorney who is not a member of the Bar of this Commonwealth but who, after having completed the study of law in a law school approved by the American Bar Association or by the Association of American Law Schools and having been admitted to practice in the highest Court of another jurisdiction, wishes to become an employee of an organized public defender program, the office of a Commonwealth's Attorney or County Attorney, or an organized legal services program in this Commonwealth providing legal assistance to indigent persons.
- (2) **General Rule.** An attorney to whom this Rule applies shall be admitted to practice before the Courts of this Commonwealth in all matters within the professional responsibility of an organized public defender program, the Office of a Commonwealth's or County Attorney, or an organized legal services program which program is sponsored, approved, or recognized by the Kentucky Bar Association. Admission to practice under this Rule shall be limited to the matters specified in the preceding sentence. An application for admission to practice under this Rule shall include or be accompanied by:
  - (a) A certificate of the highest Court or agency of any other jurisdiction having jurisdiction over admission to the Bar and the practice of law stating that the applicant is in good standing at the bar of such Court or in such jurisdiction.
  - (b) A statement signed by the Commonwealth's or County Attorney, or a representative of the public defender program or legal services program, that has employed the attorney, showing compliance with paragraph (1) of this Rule. Any such statement shall also acknowledge the duty of the office or the program to notify the Clerk of the Supreme Court immediately whenever the attorney ceases to be an employee of such program.
  - (c) Such other affidavits or materials as shall be deemed necessary by the Character and Fitness Committee in order to satisfy the Committee of the applicant's moral character and fitness to practice before the Court of this Commonwealth.
    - (d) Payment of a fee of one-hundred dollars \$100.00.

- (3) **Subscription and Action.** The application for admission shall be subscribed to by a member of the Bar of this Commonwealth in good standing. If the application and related documents are in proper order and if the Character and Fitness Committee finds that the applicant has the moral character and fitness to practice before the Courts of this Commonwealth, the Clerk of the Supreme Court shall enter the name of the applicant upon the docket of persons specially admitted to the Bar of this Commonwealth subject to the restrictions of this Rule and shall issue an appropriate certificate in evidence thereof.
- (4) **Expiration of Admission.** When an attorney admitted under this Rule ceases to be associated with the program or office for which limited admission was granted, a representative of the public defender program or legal services program or office of Commonwealth's or County Attorney shall immediately and in writing so notify the Clerk of the Supreme Court. Admission to practice under this rule shall expire: (i) after 18 months or at the end of any renewal period of the 18-month term as provided for herein, or (ii) upon termination of the attorney's employment with the program or office, whichever shall first occur. The admission to practice under this Rule for 18 months may be extended and renewed for additional terms of 18 months in the same manner as originally granted but only until such time as the attorney is otherwise eligible to obtain admission to practice in the Commonwealth of Kentucky without examination by reason of reciprocity or comity pursuant to SCR 2.110.
- (5) **Rules Governing the Practice of Law.** Except for Rules 2.110 and 3.030(2), the rules governing the practice of law shall be applicable to an attorney admitted under this Rule.

# SCR 2.113 Military spouse provisional admission

#### SCR 2.113 shall read:

- (1) Requirements. A person who meets all requirements of subparagraphs (a) through (m) of paragraph 2 of this Rule may, upon motion, be provisionally admitted to the practice of law in Kentucky.
- (2) Required Evidence. The applicant for provisional admission shall submit evidence satisfactory to the Kentucky Board of Bar Examiners that he or she:
  - (a) has been admitted by examination to practice law before the Court of last resort of any jurisdiction of the United States;

- (b) holds a Juris Doctor degree from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association at the time of such applicant's graduation;
- (c) has achieved a passing score on the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination as it is established in Kentucky at the time of application;
- (d) is currently an active member in good standing in the bar of at least one jurisdiction of the United States where the applicant is admitted to the unrestricted practice of law, and is a member in good standing in all jurisdictions where the applicant has been admitted;
- (e) is not currently subject to lawyer discipline or the subject of a pending disciplinary matter in any other jurisdiction;
- (f) possesses the good character and fitness to practice law in Kentucky;
- (g) is the dependent spouse of an active-duty service member of the United States Uniformed Services as defined by the Department of Defense (or, for the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy, by the Department of Homeland Security) and that the service member is on military orders stationed in the Commonwealth of Kentucky;
  - (h) is physically residing in Kentucky;
- (i) has submitted all requested character investigation information, in a manner and to the extent established by the Board of Bar Examiners, including all required supporting documents;
- (j) has never failed the Kentucky Bar Examination or failed to achieve a 266 on the Uniform Bar Examination at any time after Kentucky began administering it;
- (k) has successfully completed the New Lawyer Program as set out in SCR 2.017;
- (l) certifies that he or she has read and is familiar with the Kentucky Rules of Professional Conduct; and
- (m) has paid such fees as may be set by the Board of Bar Examiners to cover the costs of the character and fitness investigation and the processing of the application.

- (3) Issuance, Duration and Renewal.
- (a) The Board of Bar Examiners having certified that all prerequisites have been complied with, the applicant for provisional admission shall, upon payment of applicable dues and completion of the other membership obligations, become an active member of the Kentucky Bar Association. An attorney provisionally admitted pursuant to this Rule shall be subject to the same membership obligations as other active members of the Kentucky Bar Association, and all legal services provided in Kentucky by a lawyer admitted pursuant to this Rule shall be deemed the practice of law and shall subject the attorney to all rules governing the practice of law in Kentucky, including the Kentucky Rules of Professional Conduct.
- (b) A provisional admission may be renewed by July 31 of each year, upon filing with the Kentucky Bar Association (i) a written request for renewal, and (ii) compliance with the membership obligations of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Kentucky applicable to active members of the Kentucky Bar Association. Provisional admission under this Rule may be renewed for no more than 4 times.
- (c) When the active-duty service member is assigned to an unaccompanied or remote follow-on assignment and the attorney continues to physically reside in Kentucky, the provisional admission may be renewed until that unaccompanied or remote assignment ends, provided that the attorney complies with the other requirements for renewal.
- (4) Events of Termination. An attorney's provisional admission to practice law pursuant to this Rule shall immediately terminate and except as provided in subsection (i) of this Rule, the attorney shall immediately cease all activities under this Rule upon the occurrence of any of the following:
  - (a) The spouse's discharge, separation, or retirement from active duty in the United States Uniformed Services, or the spouse's no longer being on military orders stationed in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, except as provided in section 3(c) of this Rule;
  - (b) The attorney's failure to meet the annual licensing requirements of an active member of the Kentucky Bar Association;
  - (c) The attorney no longer physically residing within the Commonwealth of Kentucky;

- (d) The attorney ceasing to be a dependent as defined by the Department of Defense (or, for the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy, by the Department of Homeland Security) on the spouse's official military orders;
- (e) The attorney being admitted to practice law in this Commonwealth under an admissions rule other than that of Provisional Admission;
- (f) The attorney receiving a failing score on the Kentucky Bar Examination or failed to achieve a 266 on the Uniform Bar Examination taken in any jurisdiction;
- (g) The attorney being suspended from the practice of law in Kentucky or in any other state;
  - (h) Request by the attorney; or
- (i) Upon the occurrence of a terminating event the attorney may continue the work that commenced prior to the terminating event until new counsel is retained.
- (5) Notices Required.
- (a) An attorney provisionally admitted under this Rule shall provide written notice to the Kentucky Bar Association of any Event of Termination within 30 days of the occurrence thereof.
- (b) Within 30 days of the occurrence of any Event of Termination, the attorney shall:
  - (i) provide written notice to all of his or her clients that he or she can no longer represent such clients and furnish proof to the Executive Director of the Kentucky Bar Association within 60 days of such notification; and
  - (ii) file in each matter pending before any Court or tribunal in this Commonwealth a notice that the attorney will no longer be involved in the matter, which shall include the substitution of the local counsel, or such other attorney licensed to practice law in Kentucky selected by the client, as counsel in the place of the provisionally admitted attorney.

(6) Benefits and Responsibilities. An attorney provisionally admitted under this Rule shall be entitled to the benefits and be subject to all responsibilities and obligations of active members of the Kentucky Bar Association, and shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts and agencies of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and to the Kentucky Bar Association with respect to the laws and rules of this Commonwealth governing the conduct and discipline of attorneys to the same extent as an active member of the Kentucky Bar Association.

# SCR 2.116 Supervised practice

#### SCR 2.116 shall read:

- **1.** The purpose of this Rule is to allow law school graduates not licensed in any other jurisdiction to practice under supervision while studying for the Kentucky Bar Examination and awaiting results.
- **2.** Applications for supervised practice shall be electronically submitted on forms approved by the Board of Bar Examiners and the Character and Fitness Committee. Application forms are available on the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions website at www.kyoba.org.
  - **3.** An individual may be eligible for supervised practice if he or she:
  - a. Has never been licensed to practice law in another state in the United States, the District of Columbia, or U.S. Territories;
  - b. Meets the moral character and fitness requirements of SCR 2.011;
    - c. Meets the educational requirements of SCR 2.014;
  - d. Works in Kentucky under the supervision of a licensed lawyer who is admitted and in good standing in Kentucky; and

#### e. Has:

- i. submitted an application for the Kentucky Bar Examination pursuant to SCR 2.022 or 2.023;
- ii. taken the Bar Examination as provided under SCR 2.080 but not yet received notification of the results of the examination; or

iii. submitted a Uniform Bar Examination score transfer application under SCR 2.090 but has not yet been admitted as a member of the Kentucky Bar.

**4.** An applicant who has been approved under this Rule but is unsuccessful on the Kentucky Bar Examination may continue to practice under supervision if he or she submits a re-application for admission by examination under SCR 2.204 within ten (10) days of being notified of the failing score. An applicant who fails to file a reapplication for admission within ten (10) days will no longer be eligible to engage in supervised practice.

#### **5.** Supervision.

- a. An applicant under this Rule must be under the direct supervision of an attorney who meets the requirements of paragraph (c), below. The applicant shall disclose the name, address, and membership status of the supervising attorney, which disclosure shall be filed with the Office of Bar Admissions and the Kentucky Bar Association.
- b. A supervising attorney is responsible for ensuring an applicant is properly supervised and in compliance with the Kentucky Rules of Professional Conduct (SCR 3.130).
  - c. The supervising attorney must:
  - i. be a lawyer licensed and in good standing with the Kentucky Bar Association;
    - ii. have practiced for a minimum of four years;
  - iii. assume professional responsibility for the direct and immediate supervision of the professional work of the applicant;
  - iv. file a signed verification form certifying the applicant's association with and supervision by that attorney with the Office of Bar Admissions and the Kentucky Bar Association; and
  - v. be identified in all papers submitted to a court, government agency or authority, or alternative dispute resolution tribunal, on which the applicant's name appears.
- **6.** The applicant shall be subject to the disciplinary authority of the Kentucky Bar Association and Supreme Court of Kentucky and shall comply

with the Kentucky Rules of Professional Conduct (SCR 3.130) and all other 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. The applicant is not permitted to advertise independently of the supervising attorney.

- **7.** The applicant shall affirmatively state in all written (including electronic) communications with the public and clients the following language: "Practice temporarily authorized pending admission to the Kentucky Bar Association." In the initial consultation, the applicant shall affirmatively inform 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 Kentucky Bar Association.
- **8. 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 Supreme Court that the applicant is eligible for temporary admission pursuant to this rule.
- **9. Oath.** Any applicant authorized to perform legal services under this Rule must subscribe to the following oath and submit a signed and notarized copy with the Clerk of the Supreme Court:

#### OATH OF BAR APPLICANT UNDER SUPERVISED PRACTICE RULE

I,, do solemnly swear that I will, as an applicant who has been
temporarily admitted under Supreme Court Rule 2.116, Supervised Practice of
Law Pending Admission, support and defend the Constitution of the United
States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Kentucky; that cognizant
of the trust placed in me and the responsibility it carries, I will conduct myself
in all matters to the extent given me as an officer of the court with the utmost
fidelity towards the court and all persons whose affairs are in any way
entrusted to me; that I will neither take part in deception of the court, nor
allow deception to take place, and should any be practiced will inform the
court; that I subscribe to and will abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct
as adopted by the Supreme Court of Kentucky; and that I will so exercise these
privileges given me that it may be alike useful in the service of justice and in
my preparation to assume full responsibility later as a member of the bar.

Bar	Applicant	

The above and foregoing Oath was sworn to and subscribed to by the above-
named Bar Applicant and administered to him/her by me, on this day of, 20
My Commission expires:

- **10. Automatic Termination.** The authority in this Rule shall terminate immediately if the applicant:
  - a. Successfully passes the Kentucky Bar Examination and takes the oath of office required by Section 228 of the Kentucky Constitution;
  - b. Withdraws the application for admission by examination or admission by UBE transferred score;
  - c. Successfully transfers a UBE score and takes the oath of office required by Section 228 of the Kentucky Constitution;
  - d. Fails to obtain a passing score on the first Bar examination the applicant takes and fails to reapply within ten days, as required by section 4 of this Rule;
  - e. Fails to obtain a passing score on the second Kentucky bar examination the applicant takes;
    - f. Is subject to a formal charge in a disciplinary proceeding; or
  - g. Is subject to an investigation by the Character and Fitness Committee subsequent to its initial certification.
- **11.** The authority in this rule shall also terminate immediately if the supervising attorney ceases to be an active member in good standing of the Kentucky Bar Association or withdraws the verification required by this rule.
- **12.** In no event shall an applicant be permitted to practice under this Rule for more than sixteen (16) months from the date he or she graduated from law school.
- **13.** Required Action After Termination of Authority. Upon termination of authority to practice law pursuant to this rule, the applicant must notify, in writing, the Clerk of the Supreme Court, the Kentucky Bar Association, and all clients in pending matters, and opposing counsel, co-counsel, and court clerks in pending litigation, of the termination of authority, and immediately cease

practicing law in Kentucky. Termination of authority is not the equivalent of disbarment or other disciplinary action.

# SCR 2.117 Practice pending admission

#### SCR 2.117 shall read:

- **1.** The purpose of this Rule is to permit an attorney who is licensed and in good standing in another jurisdiction and who has applied for admission under SCR 2.090 or SCR 2.110 to practice while his or her application is pending.
- **2.** Applications for practice pending admission shall be electronically submitted on forms approved by the Board of Bar Examiners and the Character and Fitness Committee. Application forms are available on the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions website, www.kyoba.org.
- **3.** A lawyer who is eligible to practice under paragraph (1) may provide legal services in this jurisdiction for no more than one year, provided that the lawyer:
  - a. Maintains a continuous presence in Kentucky with the intent to practice law;
    - b. Is not disbarred or suspended from practice in any jurisdiction;
  - c. Reasonably expects his or her application for admission to be granted;
  - d. Notifies the Kentucky Bar Association in writing within thirty days of first establishing an office or other continuous presence for purposes of practicing of law in this jurisdiction;
  - e. Associates with a lawyer who is admitted to practice and in good standing in Kentucky;
  - f. Affirmatively states in all written (including electronic) communications with the public and clients the following language: "Practice temporarily authorized pending admission to the Kentucky Bar Association;"
  - g. 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 Kentucky Bar Association;

- h. Submits the application required under section (2) of this rule;
- i. Pays the fee associated with the application for Practice Pending Admission; and
- j. Notifies the Kentucky Bar Association and the Office of Bar Admission if the lawyer becomes the subject of a pending disciplinary investigation in any other jurisdiction at any time during the period of practice authorized under this provision.
- **4.** Termination of Right of Practice Pending Admission. The right to practice pending admission under this Rule terminates if the lawyer withdraws the application for admission or if such application is denied; if the lawyer becomes disbarred, suspended, or takes disability inactive status in any other jurisdiction in which the lawyer is licensed to practice law; or if a formal complaint is filed with the Kentucky Bar Association. Upon termination of the right of practice, the lawyer shall not undertake any new representation that would require the lawyer to be admitted to practice law in this jurisdiction and, within ten days, shall:
  - a. Cease to occupy an office or other continuous presence for the purpose of practicing law in Kentucky unless authorized to do so pursuant to another Rule;
  - b. Notify all clients being represented in pending matters, and opposing counsel or co-counsel, of the termination of the lawyer's authority to practice pursuant to the authority in this Rule; and
  - c. Take all other necessary steps to protect the interests of the lawyer's clients.

# **5.** Change in Associated Attorney.

a. If the lawyer with whom the applicant has associated terminates the association or no longer qualifies under section 3(e) of this Rule, or if the applicant terminates the association, the lawyer with whom the applicant has associated and the applicant shall file notice with the Kentucky Bar Association and the Office of Bar Admissions severing the association.

- b. The applicant may continue to practice pending admission if, within ten (10) days of providing the notice required in paragraph (a), the applicant:
  - i. Associates with another lawyer;
  - ii. Provides notice of the association to the Kentucky Bar Association and the Office of Bar Admissions;
  - iii. Submits the application required under section (2) of this Rule;
  - iv. Pays the fee associated with the application for Practice Pending Admission;
- **6.** If the applicant does not associate with another lawyer within ten (10) days of providing notice as required under paragraph (1), the applicant's permission to practice pending admission terminates, and the applicant must comply with the requirements of section (4) of this Rule.

# SCR 2.540 Limited student practice

SCR 2.540 shall read:

Any student who has successfully completed two-thirds of the academic hour requirement for the first degree in law at an approved law school and is participating in a law school sponsored clinic, intern, extern, or public service program may provide legal services to, and may appear in any proceeding in any court of this Commonwealth on behalf of any person financially unable to employ counsel, or, on behalf of the Commonwealth or the United States' Attorney; and any student who has successfully completed two-thirds of the academic hour requirements for the first degree in law may provide legal advice, counseling, and negotiation services to a college or university student, regardless of that student's financial status, pursuant to an approved law school clinical program provided:

- (a) Such student is providing such services to, or appearing in such proceeding on behalf of, a person assigned to the student through a clinic, intern, extern, or public service program operated by an approved law school under the direction of a full or part time law school director.
- (b) Such student makes application to the Character and Fitness Committee of the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions, on a form approved by

the Committee and accompanied by a \$25.00 processing fee to cover costs. The Committee reviews and approves applications for students who appear to be qualified to perform legal services as interns and certifies this to the Supreme Court of Kentucky.

- (c) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Kentucky, the Dean of the student's law school, and the director of the law school program in which such student is participating, have filed written approval of such student with the Clerk of the Supreme Court.
- (d) A member in good standing of the Bar of this Commonwealth personally supervises all activities of the student in each case, with the exception that the student may consult with the client or potential clients, but may not advise, negotiate, or appear alone in administrative proceedings or in the courts of this Commonwealth in civil or criminal matters without personal appearance and supervision by a member in good standing of the Bar of this Commonwealth, and as otherwise provided in this Rule.

In all criminal cases involving crime for which the defendant may be punished by a fine of more than \$500.00 or by confinement for more than twelve months, personal supervision of the activities of the student requires that a member in good standing of the Bar of this Commonwealth be present for all proceedings which take place before a judge.

In the defense of any criminal case which involves a crime for which the defendant may be punished by a fine of more than \$500.00 or by confinement for more than twelve months, and which is to be prosecuted in a county not having a formal public defender program, the attorney who is to supervise the student must be appointed by the judge of the court before whom the cause is pending.

No student authorized to perform legal services under this Rule shall ask for or receive any compensation or remuneration of any kind for the services. This Rule does not prevent a law school from awarding scholarships or fellowships to a law student authorized to perform legal services under this Rule.

Unless earlier revoked, approval to perform legal services under this Rule shall be effective until the Monday following the distribution of results of the first bar examination for which an approved law graduate could be admitted to practice under the Rules of the Court.

Any student authorized to perform legal services under this Rule must subscribe to the following oath.

# OATH OF PARTICIPANT UNDER LIMITED STUDENT PRACTICE RULE

I,, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Kentucky; that cognizant of the trust placed in me and the responsibility it carries, I will conduct myself in all matters to the extent given me as an officer of the court with the utmost fidelity toward the court and all persons whose affairs are in any way entrusted to me; that I will neither take part in deception of the court, nor allow deception to take place, and should any be practiced will inform the		
court; that I will accept no remuneration for services performed except those specifically provided by the Rules of the Supreme Court; that I subscribe to as will abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct as adopted by the Supreme Court of Kentucky; and that I will so exercise these privileges given me that it may be alike useful in the service of justice and in my preparation to assume full responsibility later as a member of the bar.		
The above and foregoing Oath was subscribed to by the above Participant and administered to him/her by me, on this day of, 20		
Notary Public		
This order shall be effective upon entry and until further order of the Court.		
Entered this 5th day of January 2025.		
All sitting; all concur.		
Surve Bla Meter CHIEF JUSTICE		