FILED
AUG 21 2013
CLERK SUPREME COURT

In the Supreme Court of Iowa

In the Matter of Amendments to Iowa Court Rules Regulating Admission to the Bar	)))	**Order**

The court amends Division III (Professional Regulation) of the Iowa Court Rules as shown in the attached document. The amendment revises certain fees specified in Iowa Court Rules 31.2, 31.6, 31.12, 31.16, and 31.18 pertaining to law student registration, bar examination applications, admission on motion, registration of house counsel, and foreign legal consultants. These amendments are effective upon filing.

Dated this 21st day of August, 2013.

The Supreme Court of Iowa

By Mark S. Cady
Mark S. Cady, Chief Justice

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CHAPTER 31

ADMISSION TO THE BAR

Rule 31.2 Registration by law students.

31.2(1) Every person intending to apply for admission to the bar of this state by examination shall, by November 1 of the year in which the person commences the study of law in an accredited law school, register with the Iowa board of law examiners on forms furnished by the board and pay the required fee of ~~$25~~ $40. The board may designate data submitted as a confidential record. Any confidential data shall be segregated by the board and the assistant director from the portion of the registration filed as a public record.

31.2(2) If any person shall fail to so register, the board may, if it finds that a strict enforcement of this rule would work a hardship and that sufficient excuse exists for failing to comply with rule 31.2(1), waive the requirements of this rule as to the date of filing. Refusal of the board to waive such requirement shall be subject to supreme court review. If the registration is not on file by the November 1 registration deadline set forth in rule 31.2(1), but is on file by December 1 immediately preceding the registrant's July examination or July 1 immediately preceding the registrant's February examination, the registration fee will be ~~$75~~ $150. If the registration is not timely filed, but is on file by April 1 immediately preceding the registrant's July examination or November 1 immediately preceding the registrant's February examination, the registration fee will be $250 ~~$150~~. This fee is not refundable and shall be in addition to the fee required under rule 31.6. The failure to file the registration by the November 1 deadline of rule 31.2(1) may result in delays in conducting the board's character and fitness investigation. The board will not expedite its character and fitness investigation because the registration form is not timely filed. The board may conclude the registrant should not be permitted to take the bar examination until the investigation is completed. The registrant will not be eligible for admission to the bar until the character and fitness process is completed.

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Rule 31.6 Fee. Every applicant for admission to the bar upon examination shall, as a part of the application, remit to the Iowa board of law examiners ~~a fee in the amount of $325~~ an application fee. For applicants not previously admitted to practice law in any other state or the District of Columbia, the fee shall be $425. For applicants previously admitted to practice law in another state or the District of Columbia, the fee shall be $525. This fee is not refundable and cannot be applied to a subsequent application.

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Rule 31.12 Admission of attorneys from other jurisdictions—requirements and fees.

31.12(1) An applicant who meets the requirements of this rule and rule 31.13 may, in the discretion of the court, be admitted to the practice of law in this state without examination.

31.12(2) The applicant shall file the application with the National Conference of Bar Examiners through their online character and fitness application process unless an exception is granted by the Office of Professional Regulation. The applicant shall pay a nonrefundable administrative fee of ~~$325~~ $525 to the Office of Professional Regulation at the time of filing the application. The character investigation services of the National Conference of Bar Examiners shall be procured in all cases where application for admission on motion is made. The applicant shall pay the investigative fee required by the National Conference of Bar Examiners at the time of filing the application.

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Rule 31.16 Registration of house counsel.

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31.16(2) *Procedure for registering.* The lawyer shall submit to the Office of Professional Regulation of the Supreme Court of Iowa the following:

a. A completed application in the form the office of professional regulation prescribes.

b. ~~A $200 registration fee payable to the Client Security Commission.~~ A nonrefundable application fee in the amount of $500 payable to the Iowa board of law examiners.

c. A $200 client security assessment payable to the Client Security Commission.

~~*e*~~*d.* Documents proving admission to practice law and current good standing in all jurisdictions in which the lawyer is admitted to practice law.

~~*d*~~*e.* A certificate from the disciplinary authority of each jurisdiction of admission stating that the lawyer has not been suspended, disbarred, or disciplined and that no charges of professional misconduct are pending; or that identifies any suspensions, disbarments, or other disciplinary sanctions that have been imposed upon the lawyer, and any pending charges, complaints, or grievances.

~~*e*~~*f.* An affidavit from an officer, director, or general counsel of the employing entity attesting as follows:

(1) The entity will be employing the lawyer;

(2) To the best of its knowledge the lawyer has been lawfully admitted to practice and is a lawyer in good standing in another United States jurisdiction;

(3) To the best of its knowledge the lawyer has not been disbarred or suspended from practice in any jurisdiction and has never been convicted of a felony;

(4) While serving as counsel, the lawyer will perform legal services solely for the corporation, association, or other business, educational, or governmental entity, including its subsidiaries and affiliates;

(5) While serving as counsel, the lawyer will not provide personal legal services to the entity's officers or employees, except regarding matters directly related to their work for the entity and only to the extent consistent with rule 32:1.7 of the Iowa Rules of Professional Conduct;

(6) The corporation, association, or other business, educational, or governmental entity is not engaged in the practice of law or provision of legal services; and

(7) The entity will promptly notify the Client Security Commission of the termination of the lawyer's employment.

~~*f*~~*g*. Any other document the supreme court requires to be submitted.

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31.18 Licensing and practice of foreign legal consultants.

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31.18(2) *Application and fee.*

a. The applicant shall file an application for a foreign legal consultant license with the National Conference of Bar Examiners through their online character and fitness application process at http://www.ncbex.org/ea, unless an exception is granted by the Office of Professional Regulation. The applicant shall pay ~~an~~ the investigative fee ~~of $600 to~~ required by the National Conference of Bar Examiners at the time of filing the application.

b. In addition, the applicant shall file the following documents and fee with the Office of Professional Regulation:

(1) A certificate from the professional body or public authority having final jurisdiction over professional discipline in the foreign country in which the applicant is admitted, certifying the applicant's admission to practice, date of admission, and good standing as a lawyer or counselor at law or the equivalent, and certifying that the applicant has not been disciplined and no charges of professional misconduct are pending, or identifying any disciplinary sanctions that have been imposed upon the applicant or any pending charges, complaints, or grievances;

(2) A letter of recommendation from one of the members of the executive body of such professional body or public authority or from one of the judges of the highest law court or court of original jurisdiction in the foreign country in which the applicant is admitted;

(3) Duly authenticated English translations of the certificate required by rule 31.18(2)(*b*)(1) and the letter required by rule 31.18(2)(*b*)(2) if they are not in English;

(4) The requisite documentation establishing the applicant's compliance with the immigration laws of the United States;

(5) Other evidence as the supreme court may require regarding the applicant's educational and professional qualifications, good moral character and general fitness, and compliance with the requirements of rule 31.18(1); and

(6) An administrative fee of $~~400~~ $500 payable to the Office of Professional Regulation at the time the application is filed.