

## **Highlights of the Draft MCLE Rules**

Approved by the CBA House of Delegates on March 12, 2007

### **Minimum CLE Requirements**

- (1) Thirty-six hours of CLE every three years.
- (2) At least six of the thirty-six hours shall be for ethics/professionalism training.
- (3) Twenty of the thirty-six hours can be self study/remote learning/publishing articles.
- (4) Credit for CLE program instructors (up to six hours of credit for program preparation plus credit for time teaching).
- (5) Exempt categories
  - (a) State and Federal court judges.
  - (b) Inactive/retired Members.
  - (c) Active duty military.
  - (d) Law school faculty (except faculty still required to take the six hours of ethics/professionalism training).
  - (e) Members granted temporary/permanent exempt status.
  - (f) Members 65 years old who have practiced at least 10 years.

### **Basic Skills Course for New Lawyers**

Within two years after graduation from law school, attorneys are to complete a Basic Skills Course. The Basic Skills Course shall be jointly developed by the CLE Commission and the CBA and shall be approved by the Chief Justice.

### **CLE Commission/Accreditation**

- (1) Nine Commissioners appointed by the Chief Justice (members in good standing of the Connecticut bar and a residents of the State).

- (2) The Commission shall formulate written procedures and guidelines for continuing legal education in Connecticut and shall be responsible for program accreditation. Commission shall employ an administrator to run the program.
- (3) The initial list of accredited sponsors shall include the CBA, local and regional bar associations which have been previously approved as general accredited sponsors by the CBA, the Judicial Branch of the State of Connecticut, and the Offices of the Attorney General, Public Defender and Chief State's Attorney.

### **Funding/Tuition Assistance**

- (1) The Commission will be a self-funded entity and charge reasonable fees to support the MCLE program (fees charged to program sponsors and/or members).
- (2) The Commission will establish a tuition assistance fund and will establish procedures for Members to apply for and receive financial assistance to cover some or all of the costs of complying with the rules.

### **Reporting/Compliance**

- (1) Members file with the Commission a report of compliance, in affidavit form, at the end of each reporting period.
- (2) Procedures for extensions and cure period for late filers.
- (3) Failure to comply/cure could lead to fine.

(prepared by the CBA CLE Committee)

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