

ORIGINAL

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Bowen Greenwood
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: PR 06-0422

AUG 19 2020

Bowen Greenwood
Clerk of Supreme Court
State of Montana

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN RE: MARK D. PERISON,)
) PETITION TO WAIVE MPRE
) REQUIREMENT IN APPLICATION
Petitioner.)
) FOR ADMISSION BY MOTION TO
) MONTANA STATE BAR
)
)
)

Mark D. Perison ("Petitioner"), petitions this Honorable Court to waive the three-year Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination ("MPRE") test requirement for admission into the State Bar of Montana by Motion. In support Petitioner states:

BACKGROUND

Petitioner is seeking admission to the State Bar of Montana by motion. He has completed all application requirements except for taking the MPRE. Petitioner was required to take the MPRE when originally seeking his license to practice law in 1993 in Idaho. The State Bar of Idaho does not receive the applicant's score, but only whether the applicant passed the exam. Petitioner passed the exam and was admitted to the State Bar of Idaho. Since that time, Petitioner:

- Has been a member in good standing of the State Bar of Idaho since 1993;
- Has applied for, been accepted to, and is a member in good standing with both the California and Washington Bars;

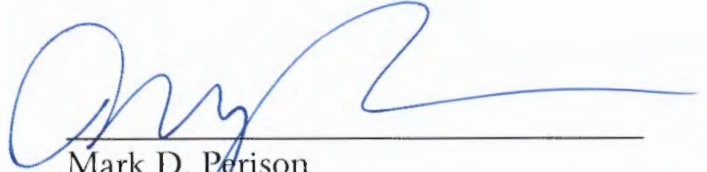
- Has practiced law for 27 years without any disciplinary action in any jurisdiction where licensed;
- Has been the sole shareholder of his own firm, Mark D. Perison, P.A., since 2007; and
- Has served as an adjunct professor with Concordia Law School in Boise, Idaho, for 4 years; and
- Has continued to participate in continuing education courses, including training in ethics, as part of his annual licensure renewal requirements with the State of Idaho.

Ethical obligations are a core value of Petitioner's practice. While studying for and retaking the MPRE is certainly valuable in terms of focusing a practitioner's attention on the innumerable nuances and ethical traps that can arise, Petitioner would hope that his 27 years of practicing law ethically and without incident, coupled with a career worth of recognition, would be an acceptable substitute under the circumstances. In that regard, Petitioner is aware that the State Bar of Montana is in discussions with this Court regarding the current requirements and near-term plans to petition the court to revise the MPRE requirement to eliminate the testing and/or retesting if the applicant has already taken and passed the MPRE for admission in another jurisdiction. Petitioner has met that requirement and, should this Court agree to implement this revised MPRE requirement, would be in compliance.

REQUESTED RELIEF

Petitioner requests that this Court waive the MPRE requirement and rely upon Petitioner's background and experience and having previously passed the MPRE for admission in another Jurisdiction as sufficient for admission to the Montana Bar.

DATED: July 17, 2020.



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