

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA**

In Re: LISA MICHELLE GRIFFITH, )  
 Petitioner ) PR 06-0422  
 ) PETITION TO WAIVE MPRE  
 ) REQUIREMENT IN APPLICATION FOR  
 ) ADMISSION BY MOTION TO MONTANA  
 ) STATE BAR

Lisa Michelle Griffith, ("Petitioner"), hereby 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, a resident of Montana, is seeking admission to the State Bar of Montana by motion. She has completed all application requirements except for taking the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam ("MPRE").

Petitioner was required to take the MPRE when originally seeking her license to practice law in 1997 in Minnesota. As indicated in the attached letter dated October 21, 2019, from the Supreme Court of Minnesota Board of Law Examiners, Petitioner was admitted to practice law in Minnesota on November 25, 1997, and one of the requirements for that admission is that she take the MPRE exam and receive a scaled score of 85 or higher on the MPRE exam, which she did prior to her admission. Since that time, Petitioner has/is:

- a member in good standing of the State Bar of Minnesota;
- applied for, been accepted to, and been a registered Patent Agent/Patent Attorney with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office since 1997;
- applied for, been accepted to, and is a member in good standing of the State Bar of California since 2001;
- applied for, been accepted to, and is a member in good standing of the State Bar of Wyoming since 2020;
- applied for and been admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court, Southern District of California since 2001;
- applied for, been accepted to, and been licensed as a Real Estate Salesperson by the State of California Department of Real Estate since 2018;


- applied for, been admitted to practice before, and has practiced before, the U.S. District Court, Central District of California since 2018;
- applied for, been admitted to practice before, and has practiced before, the U.S. District Court, Northern District of California since 2019;
- practiced law as an intellectual property attorney for over twenty-four years;
- been a founding partner and President of a California professional corporation;
- been a founding partner and President of a Wyoming professional corporation;
- applied for, been accepted to, and served as a Temporary Judge handling small claims and traffic matters for the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego since 2013;
- received countless hours of continuing education on ethics; and
- not had any ethical or disciplinary issues in any jurisdiction - where licensed or where admitted.

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 all of the above 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 (or retesting, if the applicant has already taken and passed the MPRE for admission in another jurisdiction) requirement. 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 with a scaled score of 85 or higher on the MPRE exam, which was sufficient for admission to the State Bar of Minnesota, the State Bar of California, and the State Bar of Wyoming.

Dated: August 16, 2021

By: 

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THE SUPREME COURT OF MINNESOTA  
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October 21, 2019

Lisa M. Griffith  
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Re: MPRE Score for Lisa M. Griffith (formerly McGeehan)

Dear Ms. Griffith:

I am responding to your October 21, 2019, request for evidence that you received an MPRE score in Minnesota of 85 or higher.

Our records indicate that you sat for the July 1997 Minnesota bar examination and were admitted to practice in Minnesota on November 25, 1997. One of the general requirements for admission to the bar in Minnesota is that the applicant take the MPRE exam and receive a scaled score of 85 or higher on the MPRE exam. Minnesota does not admit any applicant to the bar without meeting this requirement.

I would like to confirm that our records indicate that you did receive a score of 85 or higher on the MPRE examination.

Very truly yours,

MINNESOTA BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Corson".

Emily Corson  
Bar Admission Administrator