

ORIGINAL

FILED

02/14/2022

Bowen Greenwood
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: PR 06-0422

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN RE: STEPHEN J. HEGEDUS

PRO-06-0422

FILED

FEB 14 2022

Bowen Greenwood
Clerk of Supreme Court
State of Montana

PETITION TO WAIVE MPRE
REQUIREMENT IN APPLICATION
FOR ADMISSION BY MOTION TO
MONTANA STATE BAR

Stephen J. Hegedus, ("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, a resident of Tennessee, is seeking admission to the State Bar of Montana by motion. He has completed all application requirements except for taking the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam ("MPRE"). Petitioner was required to sit for the MPRE when originally seeking his license to practice law in 2015 for the State Bar of Michigan. The State Bar of Michigan requires applicants to score a minimum of 85 on the MPRE. Petitioner scored an 87 for the MPRE, taken on November 1, 2014. *Please see* Exhibit A, MPRE Score Report. Petitioner then sat for the State Bar of Michigan's Bar Exam, passed the exam, and was admitted to the State Bar of Michigan. Since that time Petitioner has/is:

- a member in good standing of the State Bar of Michigan since 2015;

- Applied for, been accepted to, and is a member in good standing with the State Bars for Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Oklahoma, and Wisconsin;
- Served as a judicial law clerk for the first two years of licensure for the 52nd District Court, 4th Division of Michigan, and the 6th Circuit Court of Michigan;
- Practiced consumer law and contract law for the most recent four and a half years, without any ethical or disciplinary issues in any jurisdiction where licensed;
- Been compliant with all State Bar CLE and annual reporting requirements;


Maintaining and upholding ethical obligations and duties are a vital component of Petitioner's practice and standards. Although studying and sitting for the MPRE again is a valuable requirement to ensure a practitioner is aware and conscious of various ethical dilemmas and situations that could arise, Petitioner believes and hopes that his nearly seven years of practicing law ethically and without any incidents, in multiple states, would be an acceptable substitute under the current global circumstances. Due to COVID-19 and its variants, Petitioner has been able to register for the MPRE exam, but would not be able to sit for it until August of 2022, due to limited seating availability and current safety constraints at testing facilities in Petitioner's residential region. Petitioner is also aware that the State Bar of Montana is in discussions with this Honorable Court regarding the current requirements and near-term plans to petition the Court to revise the MPRE requirement to eliminate the testing and/or re-testing requirement if the applicant has already sat for and passed the MPRE for admission in another jurisdiction. Petitioner has met the requirement necessary for admission to several other States and,

should this Honorable Court agree to implement the revised MPRE requirement, would be in compliance as well.

REQUESTED RELIEF

Petitioner respectfully requests that this Honorable Court waive the MPRE requirement and rely upon Petitioner's background and experience, and having previously passed the MPRE with a score of 87, for another jurisdiction, as sufficient for admission to the State Bar of Montana.

This 7th day of February, 2022.



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