

 ORIGINAL

FILED

12/27/2022

Bowen Greenwood
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: PR 06-0422

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DEC 27 2022

Bowen Greenwood
Clerk of Supreme Court
State of Montana

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

PR 06-0422

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| IN RE: |) | |
| KIMBERLY K. RIDGE |) | PETITION TO WAIVE MPRE |
| Petitioner, |) | REQUIREMENT IN APPLICATION |
| |) | FOR ADMISSION BY MOTION TO |
| |) | MONTANA STATE BAR |
| |) | |
| |) | |

Comes now, Kimberly K. Ridge, ("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. In support Petitioner states:

BACKGROUND

Petitioner, whose firm is located in the State 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 Examination ("MPRE"). Petitioner was required to take the MPRE when originally seeking her license to practice law in 2014 in Massachusetts. Petitioner passed the exam in November 2013 with a score of 106 and was admitted to the State Bar of Massachusetts. Since that time, Petitioner has/is:

- A member in good standing to the State Bar of Massachusetts since 2014;
- Practiced law for 8 years without any ethical or disciplinary issues in any jurisdiction where licensed or where admitted pro hac vice;

Ethical obligations are a core value of the 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 her 8 years of practicing law ethically and without incident, coupled with a score far exceeding the minimum required by the State Bar of Montana, 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 testing & (or retesting) requirement 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 and implement this revised MPRE requirement, would be in compliance.

REQUESTED RELIEF

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

This 16th day of December, 2022



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