

PR 00-0422

FILED

October 11 2011

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

Petitioner Name: Jerome Anthony Patterson, Jr.  
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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

No. \_\_\_\_\_

IN RE PETITION OF JEROME ANTHONY PATTERSON, JR  
FOR ADMISSION TO ACTIVE STATUS  
IN THE STATE BAR OF MONTANA

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P E T I T I O N

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COMES NOW Jerome Anthony Patterson, Jr. and respectfully petitions this Court for admission to active status in the State Bar of Montana pursuant to its By-Laws through the waiver of certain examination requirements of the 2005 Rules for Admission to the State Bar of Montana.

1. Petitioner was admitted to the State Bar of Texas on September 24, 1973. Petitioner's Texas Bar license number is 15615500 and his membership in the State Bar of Texas remains in good standing.
2. Petitioner has relocated his residence to Whitefish, Montana and has accepted employment by Northwest Healthcare Corporation, a Montana nonprofit corporation, as its Chief Administrative Officer. Included within his duties as Chief Administrative Officer is the direction and oversight of the legal affairs of Northwest Healthcare Corporation and its owned and controlled affiliates and the performance of in-house legal counsel functions.

3. Petitioner has filed an Application for Admission to the State Bar of Montana. The Application was accepted on March 15, 2011. Petitioner has sat for and successfully passed the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam ("MPRE") administered in August, 2011. Petitioner has deferred sitting for the bar examination. Evidence of the acceptance of Petitioner's Application for Admission and the passing of the MPRE are attached as Exhibit A.
4. Petitioner has a long and distinguished career in the practice of law, as evidenced in a biographical statement attached to this Petition as Exhibit B. Petitioner has specialized in the practice of health law, and is certified in the specialty of health law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Petitioner serves as a member of the Health Law Exam Committee of the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.
5. Petitioner respectfully petitions this Court to waive examination requirements C.1. (The Multistate Essay Examination), C.2. (The Multistate Performance Test), C.3. (The Multistate Bar Examination) and C.4. (The Montana Essay Examination).
6. Petitioner's legal services would be provided solely to Northwest Healthcare Corporation and its owned and controlled affiliates. Petitioner would not represent any of these entities in court. These entities have in the past and would continue to use outside counsel in court proceedings. As a health care services delivery system, Northwest Healthcare is subject to unique and complex laws and regulations calling for special expertise in its legal advisors. Petitioner possesses that expertise and has many years of experience in the representation of hospital systems and other healthcare services providers in their business and regulatory legal affairs. Northwest Healthcare currently has two licensed Montana lawyers employed in its administrative staff and uses outside counsel frequently. Thus, Petitioner has ready access to other Montana licensed lawyers as needed in the representation of Northwest Healthcare. Consistent with Montana Rules of Professional Conduct Rule 1.1 (Competence), Petitioner will ensure that through self-study, the engaging of outside counsel and consulting his in-house colleagues, he has the legal knowledge

and skill to properly represent the interests of Northwest Healthcare or will engage outside counsel on the particular matter.

7. Petitioner has no intent to engage in the private practice of law in Montana. If Petitioner should ever change that intention, prior to doing so Petitioner would petition this Court for a further ruling with respect to whether any or all of the Examination Requirements referenced in Paragraph 5 above would have to be met prior to engaging in private practice.
8. Petitioner will pay active status dues, fees, and the state license tax to the State Bar of Montana and comply with all continuing education requirements required to maintain active membership in the State Bar. Petitioner intends to maintain his membership in the State Bar of Texas as well.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner requests waiver of the Examination Requirements for admission to the State Bar of Montana set forth in Paragraph 5 above in order that Petitioner may proceed with enrollment as an active member of the State Bar of Montana.

The above statements are true based upon Petitioner's knowledge and belief.

DATED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011

BY: Jerome A. Patterson, Jr.  
Petitioner

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011 by Jerome Anthony Patterson, Jr.

(Notarial Seal)

Notary Signature [Signature]  
Printed Name of Notary Terrell W. Williams  
Residing at Bigfork, MT  
Notary Public for the State of Montana  
My Commission Expires April 24, 2013