

VIRGINIA:

In the Supreme Court of Virginia held at the Supreme Court Building in the City of Richmond on Tuesday the 27th day of February, 2018.

It is ordered that the Rules for Integration of the Virginia State Bar, Part Six of the Rules of Court, be and the same hereby are amended, effective December 1, 2018.

Addition of Section IV, Paragraph 22 of the Rules for Integration of the Virginia State Bar, Part Six of the Rules of Court to read as follows:

22. Voluntary Pro Bono Publico Legal Services Reporting.

Rule 6.1 of the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct establishes an aspirational goal that every lawyer should render at least two percent per year of the lawyer's professional time to pro bono publico legal services. Providing an opportunity for lawyers to voluntarily report their pro bono service on an annual basis will: (1) heighten awareness of this ethical responsibility among the bar membership by serving as an annual reminder; (2) provide a comprehensive mechanism for the bar to report and measure its collective performance vis-à-vis the aspirational goal set by Rule 6.1; (3) provide comprehensive data for the judiciary to support its efforts to promote and recognize pro bono work on a local, regional and statewide basis; (4) provide crucial benchmark data to the Virginia Access to Justice Commission to support its work promoting equal access to justice for Virginia residents; and (5) enable the bar to educate the public regarding the amount of pro bono publico legal services provided by its membership to the community, thereby improving the image and standing of the profession and its membership.

Accordingly, the Supreme Court of Virginia requests that each active member of the Virginia State Bar voluntarily supply certain information regarding pro bono publico legal services as part of the annual license renewal application process by making one or more of the following optional responses:

1. *Pro Bono Hours. I have personally provided approximately ____ hours of pro bono publico legal services as defined in subsection (a) of Rule 6.1 of the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct during the previous 12 months beginning July 1 of the preceding year and ending June 30 of the current year.*

2. *Financial Contribution. I have personally contributed \$ _____ to support programs that provide the direct delivery of legal services to meet the needs described in Rule 6.1 (a) of the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct, as an alternative method for fulfilling my responsibility to render pro bono legal services.*

3. *Not applicable. The two percent goal is not applicable because:*

____ *(i) I am currently serving as a member of the judiciary, or*

____ *(ii) I am a government lawyer prohibited by statute, rule, regulation, or agency policy from providing legal services outside my employment, or*

____ *(iii) I maintain retired, disabled, or associate status with the Virginia State Bar.*

4. *No report. I do not wish to report the hours of pro bono publico legal services I have performed this year, nor do I wish to report any financial contributions made in lieu of performing such services.*

A Copy,

Teste:

Pat L. Hammit

Clerk