**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SUPREME COURT**

**RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAR OF OHIO**

Comments Requested: The Supreme Court of Ohio will accept public comments until January 22, 2014, on the following proposed amendments to the Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio (Gov.Bar R. I, Sec. I).

Comments on the proposed amendments should be submitted in writing to: Lee Ann Ward, Director of **Bar Admissions**, 5th Floor, 65 South Front Street, Columbus, Ohio  43215-3431, or [LeeAnn.Ward@sc.ohio.gov](mailto:LeeAnn.Ward@sc.ohio.gov) not later than January 22, 2014.  If your comment refers to a specific provision of the proposed amendments, please use the line numbers that appear along the left margin.  Please include your full name and mailing address in any comments submitted by e-mail. Please submit comments via regular mail or e-email, not both.

Key to Proposed Amendment:

          1.    Existing language appears in regular type.  Example: text

          2.    Existing language to be deleted appears in strikethrough.  Example: ~~text~~

          3.    New language to be added appears in underline.  Example: text

4. Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted in order to save space. The omitted language is indicated by three asterisks in the location where the language would appear in the complete rule. Example:  \*\*\*

**SUPREME COURT RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAR OF OHIO**

**RULE I. ADMISSION TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW**

**Section 1. General Requirements.**

To be admitted to the practice of law in Ohio, an applicant shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

(A) Be at least twenty-one years of age;

(B) Have earned a bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university ~~in accordance with any of the following:~~

~~(1)~~ ~~Prior to admission to law school;~~

~~(2)~~ ~~Subsequent to admission to law school, through completion of courses and credits other than those received in law school, if the applicant has made a record of academic achievement that is satisfactory to the Court and receives Court approval;~~

~~(3)~~ ~~From participation in a joint bachelor’s/law degree program that has been reviewed and approved by the Court, requires at least seven years of full-time study, and results in the award of both a bachelor’s degree and a law degree~~;

(C) Have earned a J.D. or an L.L.B. degree from a law school that was approved by the American Bar Association at the time the degree was earned or, if not located in the United States, from a law school evaluated and approved in accordance with Section 2(C) or Section 9(C)(13) of this rule;

(D) Prior to taking the Ohio bar examination or being admitted without examination pursuant to Section 9 of this rule, have demonstrated that the applicant possesses the requisite character, fitness, and moral qualifications for admission to the practice of law and have been approved as to character, fitness, and moral qualifications under procedures provided in this rule;

(E) Have passed both the Ohio bar examination and the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination, or have been approved for admission without examination pursuant to Section 9 of this rule;

(F) Have taken the oath of office pursuant to Section 8(A) of this rule.

As used in this section, “accredited college or university” means a college or university approved by one of the following accrediting associations or, if not located in the United States or Canada, a college or university evaluated and approved in accordance with Section 2(C) or Section 9(C)(13) of this rule: Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools/Commission on Higher Education; New England Association of Schools and Colleges--Commission on Institutions of Higher Education; North Central Association of Colleges and Schools; Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges; Southern Association of Colleges and Schools-- Commission on Colleges; Western Association of Schools and Colleges--Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges--Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

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