

In the Supreme Court of Iowa

Request for Public Comment on)
Proposed Exempt Attorney)
License Status in Iowa)

Order

CLERK SUPREME COURT

The Iowa Supreme Court seeks public comment on proposed amendments to several provisions in Division III (Professional Regulation) of the Iowa Court Rules. The office of professional regulation (OPR) proposes amendments that would divide the existing exempt license classification for Iowa attorneys into two separate classifications. A new retired license classification would be created for fully retired attorneys. The exempt license classification would remain for attorneys who are inactive in Iowa but want to retain the ability to reinstate to active status. An annual fee and report for exempt attorneys would be adopted to facilitate tracking exempt lawyers and support the Client Security Trust Fund. Transition to the new concept would be eased by making the new statuses available prospectively and providing conversion privileges for a period of years for those attorneys currently in exempt status.

Prior to further consideration, the supreme court seeks public comment on the proposed amendments. The proposed amendments to Division III of the Iowa Court Rules are provided with this order and may be found on the Iowa Judicial Branch website at: www.iowacourts.gov/About_the_Courts/Supreme_Court/Orders/. A memorandum OPR has prepared regarding the concept of separate classification of exempt license status for Iowa attorneys is also available on the Iowa Judicial Branch website.

Any interested organization, agency, or person may submit comments regarding the proposed amendments. Comments about the

proposed amendments must refer to the specific rule number (for example, rule 39.7(2)) and the specific numbered line or lines to which the comments refer. Comments sent by email must be emailed to **rules.comments@iowacourts.gov**, must state **“Exempt Attorney License Changes”** in the subject line of the email, and must be sent **as an attachment to the email in Microsoft Word format**. Instead of submission by email, comments may be delivered in person or mailed to the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Judicial Branch Building, 1111 East Court Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

Any comments received may be posted on the Iowa Judicial Branch website.

The deadline for submitting comments is 4:30 p.m. on May 20, 2016.

Dated this 21st day of March, 2016.

The Supreme Court of Iowa

By Mark S. Cady
Mark S. Cady, Chief Justice