

FILED

AUG 30 2018

In the Iowa Supreme Court

**Request for Public Comment on)
Office of Professional Regulation)
Proposed Amendments to the)
Iowa Court Rules)**

CLERK SUPREME COURT
Order

The Iowa Supreme Court Office of Professional Regulation proposes amendments to the following Iowa Court Rules:

- Rule 31.11 Automatic review.
- Rule 31.14 Admission pro hac vice before Iowa courts and administrative agencies.
- Rule 34.17 Disability suspension.
- Rule 34.18 Death, suspension, or disbarment of practicing attorney.
- Rule 39.7 Exemption; retirement.
- Rule 39.8 Enforcement.
- Rule 39.14 Reinstatement from exemption or suspension.
- Rule 39.18 Requirement for death or disability designation and authorization.
- Rule 41.10 Reinstatement from suspension.
- Rule 41.13 Retired practitioners.
- Rule 47.4 Classification of oral language court interpreters.
- Rule 47.6 Iowa roster of court interpreters.

The proposed amendment to rule 31.11 is a recommendation from the Iowa Board of Law Examiners to remove the automatic review process for the written components of the Iowa Bar Examination. The appeal procedure contained in rule 31.11(3), related to supreme court review, would be retained. This recommendation is consistent with the National Conference of Bar Examiners recommendation to eliminate the automatic regrading process in Iowa, and according to the Iowa Board of Law Examiners, will shorten the time between administration of the bar exam and release of exam results. Provided with this order is a supporting memorandum from the Iowa Board of Law

Examiners and articles relating to the background, portability, and grading of the Uniform Bar Examination.

Proposed amendments to rules in chapter 34 specify that a judicial district chief judge can consider recommendations from the office of professional regulation in appointing trustees in the event of an attorney's death, suspension, or disbarment. The amendments would also clarify that appointed attorneys serve as members of the Client Security Commission.

Proposed amendments to rules in chapters 39 and 41 include changing "certificate of retirement" to "certificate of relinquishment" for attorneys who intend never again to practice law in Iowa.

Proposed amendments to court interpreter and translator rules in chapter 47 anticipate an effective date of January 1, 2019, for requirements that Class B oral language court interpreters must meet by July 1, 2019. The amendments would include changes to requirements pertaining to the Iowa roster of court interpreters, the oral language proficiency exam, and retaking written and oral language proficiency exams.

The proposed amendments are provided with this order and are available on the judicial branch website at <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/supreme-court/orders/>. In addition, copies of the proposed amendments are available at the office of the Clerk of the Iowa Supreme Court.

Prior to taking further action, the supreme court seeks public comment on the proposed amendments. This request for public comment does not imply that the court will adopt any proposed amendment without further consideration.

Any interested organization, agency, or person may submit written comments. Comments about a proposed rule change must refer to the specific rule number and line number (for example, rule 31.11(3), lines 5-9). Email comments must be sent to **rules.comments@iowacourts.gov**, must state "OPR

amendments” 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 Iowa Supreme Court, 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 October 29, 2018.

Dated this 30th day of August, 2018.

The Supreme Court of Iowa

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