

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED
OCT 12 2010
Clerk of the Courts

**IN RE: PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF AMENDED
TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT RULE 7, SECTION 2.02**

No. M2010-01646-SC-BLE-RL

ORDER

Melissa Lanzo has petitioned this Court for an amendment to Section 2.02 of Rule 7 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. The Court is considering an amendment, which would delete the existing language in its entirety and replace it with the following new section :

Sec. 2.02. Approval of Law Schools. —

(a) Each applicant to take the examination must have completed a course of instruction in and graduated from a regularly organized law school which was accredited by the American Bar Association at the time of applicant's graduation, or one which has been approved by the Board pursuant to § 2.03.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this section, an attorney who graduated from a law school, located in the United States, that was not accredited or approved in accordance with paragraph (a) shall be eligible to apply to take the bar examination in this State if the applicant passed the bar examination in another state or the District of Columbia and is admitted to practice and in good standing before the highest court of such jurisdiction, provided that the applicant establishes to the satisfaction of the Board that he or she was actively engaged in the practice of law in such jurisdiction for at least five of the seven years immediately preceding his or her application to take the bar examination in this State. For the purposes of this paragraph (b), the definition of "practice of law" in § 5.01(b) is incorporated herein by reference. Without waiving the minimum five-year period, the Board, in its discretion and for exceptional circumstances shown by the applicant, may waive the requirement that such period immediately precede the application for admission in this State.

The Court hereby publishes the proposed amendment for public comment and solicits written comments from the bench, the bar, and the public. The deadline for submitting written comments is Friday, December 31, 2010. Written comments should be addressed to:

Michael W. Catalano, Clerk
100 Supreme Court Building
401 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37219-1407

and should reference the docket number listed above.

The Clerk shall provide a copy of this order to LexisNexis and to Thomson Reuters. In addition, this order shall be posted on the Tennessee Supreme Court's website.

It is so ORDERED.

FOR THE COURT:



CORNELIA A. CLARK, CHIEF JUSTICE