

5-5

Proposal by Deborah Gottschalk to amend the Client Security Fund Fee rules to add "individuals with disabilities" to the category of individuals who qualify for the total exemption from the CSF fee. On 11-19-18, RC tabled matter and referred matter to CSF Committee for comment; RC asked for comments within 3 weeks. Sent referral on 12-8-19. On 12-10-18, received comments from CSF (Chris Blanchard) requesting until January 17, 2019, to review and comment on proposal. **On 12-18-18, RC tabled matter to 1-22-19 to allow CSF Committee to comment.**

~~4/5~~ 5-5a

Del Ciampo, Joseph

From: Blanchard, Christopher
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2018 8:13 AM
To: Del Ciampo, Joseph
Cc: Bowler, Michael; Dowd, Cathy
Subject: RE: Proposal to amend the exemption rules for CSF Fee Obligation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Attorney Del Ciampo- unfortunately, the Client Security Fund Committee is not scheduled to meet again until January 17. I would respectfully request that the Client Security Fund Committee be provided an opportunity to review Attorney Gottschalk's letter at that time and to provide the Rules Committee with their comments after their meeting.

Sincerely,

Christopher G. Blanchard
Staff Attorney
Judicial Branch Client Security Fund
2nd Floor, Suite One
287 Main Street
East Hartford, CT 06118
Security.Fund@jud.ct.gov
(860)-568-3450

From: Del Ciampo, Joseph
Sent: Saturday, December 8, 2018 11:21 AM
To: Blanchard, Christopher <Christopher.Blanchard@jud.ct.gov>
Subject: Proposal to amend the exemption rules for CSF Fee Obligation

Dear Attorney Blanchard,

At its meeting on November 19, 2018, the Rules Committee considered the attached proposal by Attorney Deborah Gottschalk to amend the Client Security Fund Fee rules to add "individuals with disabilities" to the category of individuals who qualify for a total exemption from the fee.

After discussion, the Committee tabled the matter to the next meeting to refer it to the Client Security Fund Committee, with direction that it respond to the Committee in three weeks with comments. The next meeting of the Rules Committee is scheduled for December 18, 2018. I apologize for the delay in forwarding this to you. If you can get comments to me before the meeting on December 18th that would be appreciated, if not, please let me know. Thank you.

Joseph J. Del Ciampo
Director of Legal Services
Connecticut Judicial Branch
100 Washington Street, 3rd Floor
Hartford, CT 06106

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LEGAL SERVICES
CT JUDICIAL BRANCH

October 2, 2018

Attorney Joseph J. Del Ciampo
Director, Judicial Branch Legal Services
P.O. Box 150474
Hartford, CT 06115-0474

Dear Attorney Del Ciampo:

Per the attached correspondence I was referred to you by the Client Security Fund as the appropriate contact for requests and/or suggestions related to the Client Security Fund "**Exemption**" categories.

By way of introduction my name is Deborah Gottschalk and I am an Attorney and a member of the Connecticut Bar. My Juris # is 420741.

I recently received my annual invoice from the "Client Security Fund" acting on behalf of the "Connecticut Judicial Branch" requesting payment of the annual "Client Security Fund Fee".

Although I remitted my required "Security Fund Fee" based on my personal circumstances I wanted to take this opportunity to address a personal hardship situation which does not seem to be directly addressed in the "**Partial**" or "**Full**" "**Exemption**" categories as defined by the "Client Security Fund" invoice.

I recently suffered a Stroke and now suffer from left-side paralysis and neurological damage.

In addition to the Stroke I developed Epilepsy due to the traumatic brain injury caused by the Stroke and periodically suffer from Grand Mal Seizures.

Due to my physical and neurological limitations I have been unable to work for well over a year.

As a result of my declining health and inability to work I recently applied for disability benefits and was approved to start receiving benefits in March of 2018. Although I am thankful for the disability benefits my income is extremely limited based on my benefit award and my inability to work at this point in time.

Although I qualify for the "**Partial Exemption**" from the Client Security Fund Fee I was wondering if the Judicial Branch and the Client Security Fund have considered adding "**Individuals with Disabilities**" to the "**Total Exemption**" category?

The "**Total Exemption**" category is currently limited to the following:

"Only those attorneys who have retired, resigned, who have served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States for a period of more than six months during the calendar year, or who have been disbarred, are exempt from payment of the fee. Attorneys have "retired" only if they have complied with the provisions of Practice Book Section 2-55 or Section 2-55A."

I would like to request a review of the "**Total Exemption**" category if possible based on my personal situation and on behalf of others who may be facing similar challenges and situations and have been designated as "**Disabled**".

Additionally, although I am unable to perform the "essential functions" of a legal position at this point in time I have no plans of retiring from the practice of law.

Even with all of my recovery efforts over the past year, sadly, my health has not improved. It is tragic and heartbreaking that so much of my life has been taken away and continues to be in jeopardy from one event. It brings me tremendous sadness and continues to be an endless source of stress

and unanticipated challenges.

By sincere hope is that someday I will be able to return to the practice of law which is my passion but feel it is important to take this time to act as an advocate for people within or outside the legal community who are **disabled** and facing similar hardships.

I hope you will consider adding "**Individuals with Disabilities**" to the "**Total Exemption**" category as defined by the Connecticut Judicial Branch.

Thank you for your consideration. It is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Deborah Gottschalk', written in black ink.

Deborah Gottschalk

40 Hawley Glen
Stratford, CT 06614
Tel#: (203) 209-6127

Fwd: Client Security Fund Fee - "Individuals With Disabilities"

From: oe <deborahjg333@aol.com>
To: deborahjg333 <deborahjg333@aol.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 1, 2018 7:52 am

-----Original Message-----

From: oe <deborahjg333@aol.com>
To: Security Fund <Security.Fund@judicialmail.ct.gov>
Sent: Sun, Sep 23, 2018 8:16 am
Subject: Re: Client Security Fund Fee - "Individuals With Disabilities"

Thank you so much for your reply. It is sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely,

Deborah Gottschalk

-----Original Message-----

From: Fund, Security <Security.Fund@judicialmail.ct.gov>
To: oe <deborahjg333@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, Jul 31, 2018 5:56 am
Subject: RE: Client Security Fund Fee - "Individuals With Disabilities"

Dear Attorney Gottschalk- thank you for your email. Exemptions from the client security fund fee are administered pursuant to the Practice Book rules that govern collection of the fee, and those rules are enacted by the judges of the superior court. If you have suggestions for amendments to the rules regarding exemptions from the fee, you may want to consider addressing those suggestions to the Rules Committee of the Superior Court. The committee accepts written suggestions for rule changes care of Attorney Joseph J. Del Ciampo, Director, Judicial Branch Legal Services, P.O. Box 150474, Hartford, CT 06115-0474.

Sincerely,

Christopher G. Blanchard
Staff Attorney
Judicial Branch Client Security Fund
2nd Floor, Suite One
287 Main Street
East Hartford, CT 06118
Security.Fund@jud.ct.gov
(860)-568-3450

From: oe [mailto:deborahjg333@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 8:44 AM
To: Fund, Security
Subject: Client Security Fund Fee - "Individuals With Disabilities"

July 30, 2018

My name is Deborah Gottschalk and I am an Attorney and a member of the Connecticut Bar. My Juris # is 420741.

I recently received my annual invoice from the "Client Security Fund" acting on behalf of the "Connecticut Judicial Branch" requesting payment of the annual Client Security Fund fee.

Although I remitted my required "Security Fund Fee" payment based on my personal circumstances I wanted to take this opportunity to address a personal hardship situation which does not seem to be directly addressed in the "Partial" or "Full" "Exemption" categories as defined by the "Client Security Fund" invoice.

I recently suffered a Stroke and now suffer from left -side paralysis and neurological damage.

In addition to the Stroke I developed Epilepsy due to the traumatic brain injury caused by the Stroke and periodically suffer from Grand Mal Seizures.

Due to my physical and neurological limitations I have been unable to work for well over a year.

As a result of my declining health and inability to work I recently applied for disability benefits and was approved to start receiving benefits in March of 2018. Although I am thankful for the disability benefits my income is extremely limited based on my benefit award and my inability to work at this point in time.

Although I qualify for the "Partial Exemption" from the Client Security Fund Fee I was wondering if the Judicial Branch and the Client Security Fund have considered adding "Individuals with Disabilities" to the "Total Exemption" category?

I am asking for the review of the "Total Exemption" category based on my personal situation and on behalf of others who may be facing similar challenges and situations and have been designated as "Disabled".

Additionally, although I am unable to perform the "essential functions" of a legal position at this point in time I have no plans of retiring from the practice of law.

Even with all of my recovery efforts over the past year, sadly, my health has not improved. It is tragic and heartbreaking that so much of my life has been taken away and continues to be in jeopardy from one event. It brings me tremendous sadness and continues to be an endless source of stress and unanticipated challenges.

My sincere hope is that someday I will be able to return to the practice of law which is my passion.

I hope you will consider adding "Individuals with Disabilities" to the "Total Exemption" category as defined by the Connecticut Judicial Branch and the "Client Security Fund" or advise me who I can contact regarding a review of the "Total Exemption" category.

Thank you for your consideration. It is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Deborah Gottschalk