

NEW HAVEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

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November 6, 2020

State of Connecticut

Superior Court

Rules Committee

P.O. Box 150474

Hartford, CT 065115-0474

RE: New Haven County Bar Association's Response to Proposed Amendment to Rule 8.4

Dear Justice McDonald et al:

It is my understanding that the Rules Committee is seeking comment from the local bar associations on the proposed change to Rule 8.4 of the Connecticut Rules of Professional Conduct.

The New Haven County Bar Association ("NHCBA") greatly appreciates the opportunity to respond and offer input into the proposed rule. It is the practice of the NHCBA not to take positions on such matters without first polling its members, so as not to create a disjunct between our members and any official position.

The proposal to amend Rule 8.4 submitted on September 11, 2020 by the Connecticut Bar Association. It is my understanding that the rule is currently on the agenda for the November meeting.

For the NHCBA to properly conduct a survey of its members, time is needed. The survey must be drafted, approved, sent to our members and time must be provided to our members to respond. Then, we must collate the data and provide it in a palatable fashion. Realistically, the NHCBA would not be able to properly respond until the February meeting of the Rules Committee.

A change in our ethical rules is not a cavalier endeavor and should not be undertaken

without a deliberative and circumspect process that can only occur if proper time is provided. It is for this reason that we respectfully request that the Rules Committee provide a date no earlier than the February meeting to allow for all interested parties to consider and respond to this potential rule change.

Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shari-Lynn Cuomo Shore, Esq.', with a stylized, flowing script.

Shari-Lynn Cuomo Shore, Esq.
New Haven County Bar Association
President '20-'21