

2-9.

Proposal by Mr. Robert Berriault for a rule to allow for a waiver of fees for certain applicants of the bar. (First time being considered.)

Del Ciampo, Joseph

From: Del Ciampo, Joseph
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2018 12:55 PM
To: 'Robert Berriault'
Subject: RE: Request to add a proposal for the next Rules Committee meeting

Dear Mr. Berriault,

In general, if you wish to submit to the Rules Committee a proposed new rule or an amendment to an existing rule, you should submit your proposal together with a specific explanation of why the new rule or amendment is needed. Your proposal and explanation may be addressed to the Rules Committee in care of me.

Additionally, each May, the Rules Committee holds a public hearing on the rules and forms it is considering recommending to the judges for adoption. Members of the public are welcome to speak at such public hearing to voice their opinions in favor of, or in opposition to, the rules and forms being considered.

I acknowledge your below request and will present it to the Rules Committee for its consideration. Thank you.

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

e-mail: Joseph.DelCiampo@jud.ct.gov

Tel: (860) 706-5120

Fax: (860) 566-3449

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From: Robert Berriault [mailto:Robert.Berriault@outlook.com]
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 2:15 PM
To: Del Ciampo, Joseph
Subject: Request to add a proposal for the next Rules Committee meeting

September 24, 2018

Good Afternoon Mr. DelCiampo,

My name is Bobby Berriault. I am writing to you to inquire about the process of requesting that a amendment to the rules (specially the CT Bar Examination Committee rules) be added to the agenda. Is it possible for me to propose such a change for the committee to consider? If so, what is the format I should submit it? Once the committee hears the proposal, if it were to pass the rules committee at the next meeting is there another step the proposal has to go through in order to be enacted or would it be enacted with a favorable vote of the Rules Committee? Finally, would I be permitted to speak at the Rules Committee meeting to address the committee as a member of the public? Is there a public comment section of the meeting?

The proposal that I would like to ask the Rules Committee to consider would be a creation of a rule which would permit the CT Bar Examination Committee the ability to fully waive the fees for the CT Bar Examination if the applicant previously applied to the CT Bar Examination within the previous year, paid the fee in full previously, and were unable to sit for the exam because of a medical issue and is applying to sit for the CT Bar Exam a second time within two examinations of that original application. That is the situation that I am in.

I originally applied to take the CT Bar exam back in March 2018 for the July exam, and this was before I found out that I needed to have brain surgery to remove a cyst inside my head which was blocking the fluids in my brain. I ended up having to undergo surgery on June 21. I paid the full fee then. But I wasn't able to sit for the exam because of the surgery and the recovery period. I have to now reapply for the February exam, and it is the policy of the CT Bar Examining Committee to make people pay a partial \$625 fee if they are reapplying from a application that they originally submitted and subsequently did not sit for that years exam. \$625 which is a lot of money. I don't have much money, and because I grew up in foster homes and group homes and I don't have a job I can't afford to pay the fee myself.

I do not think it is fair or right especially giving my situation and the fact that I can't control a clot in my brain or other medical issues for me to have to pay twice to sit for one exam. Other people who are more lucky then I am only has to pay once to take one exam, and I don't understand why I have to pay twice to sit for one exam. I could understand being obligated to paying twice if I took the exam right after my surgery or if I didn't give the Examination Committee any notice to withdraw, but I did give them a months' notice before the deadline and they approved my withdrawal.

In college or in any other situation, if I need to withdraw from a course before the course starts I am entitled to a 100% refund. I don't understand why that doesn't apply to the Connecticut Judicial branch. That is why I am requesting the rule's change, so that myself and all other people who find themselves in a similar situation can be able to focus on their health and not have to stress about giving up their career's just because of the excessively high fees leveled against them for a situation that they have no control over.

I really do appreciate all your help and thank you so much for taking the time to read my letter.

Thanks,

Bobby Berriault
(860) 817-4635
Robert.Berriault@outlook.com

[Click here to schedule an appointment request with me!](#)

www.BobbyBerriault.com

Western New England University School of Law - J.D 2018

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