

O'Donnell, Shanna

From: Poncini, Denise
Sent: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 2:03 PM
To: Del Ciampo, Joseph
Subject: Materials for Rules Committee - Legal Specialization Screening Committee (LSSC)
Attachments: 0560_001.pdf; ES063.pdf; Minutes - 81121Draftdocx.pdf; Minutes Approved42721.pdf

Good Morning,

The LSSC met on August 11, 2021 and made two recommendations for consideration by the Rules Committee at its upcoming meeting. I have attached a letter from Attorney Rosemarie Paine advising you of the LSSC's recommendation to approve the recertification of the American Board of Certification's (ABC) authority as a certifier in the specialty areas of Consumer Bankruptcy law and Business Bankruptcy law for a five year period. The ABC's current authority to certify expires on September 25, 2021.

Additionally, as Attorney Paine's letter advises, the LSSC also recommends the approval of a revision to the form, JD-ES-63, Application for Authority to Certify Lawyers as Specialists, adding new Instruction #4. I have attached this form as revised. The committee sought this revision at its April 27, 2021 meeting after discussing that the LSSC would find it helpful to have specifications of differences between prior and current applications.

I have also attached a copy of the draft minutes of the August 11, 2021 meeting and the approved minutes of the April 27, 2021 meeting.

Please let me know if you require any additional information.

Thank you,

Denise

Denise K. Poncini
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Legal Specialization Screening Committee

August 11, 2021

Joseph Del Ciampo
Director of Legal Services
State of Connecticut Judicial Branch
100 Washington Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06115

Dear Attorney Del Ciampo:

On August 11, 2021, the Legal Specialization Screening Committee met and considered the American Board of Certification's renewal application to certify lawyers as specialists in Consumer Bankruptcy law and Business Bankruptcy law. At the meeting, the Committee recommended the following:

The Legal Specialization Screening Committee recommends that the American Board of Certification be approved for recertification as a certifier in the specialty areas of Consumer Bankruptcy law and Business Bankruptcy law, for a five year period, pursuant to its application dated May 4, 2021, because in the opinion of the Committee, it meets all of the criteria in the rules and as developed by the Committee to evaluate whether entities should be approved as certifiers, subject to the condition that, if approved, the applicant shall be required to notify promptly the Legal Specialization Screening Committee of any material changes in its methodology for certifying lawyers as specialists during the term of its approval.

The subject application is on file with your office. Please forward this recommendation to the Rules Committee.

Additionally, the Committee recommends that the Rules Committee approve the addition of Instruction #4 to form JD-ES-63, Application for Authority to Certify Lawyers as Specialists. A copy of this form, as revised, is attached.

Very truly yours,



Rosemarie Paine
Chair,
Legal Specialization Screening Committee

cc: Jeffrey N. Low
Robert F. Dwyer, Jr.
Patrick J. Kennedy
Brian T. Henebry
Denise K. Poncini

Legal Specialization Screening Committee Minutes

April 27, 2021 Meeting
Judicial Branch, Legal Services Unit
2:00pm

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA TEAMS

Members Participating: Attorney Rosemarie Paine (Chair), Attorney Jeffrey Low (Vice Chair), Attorney Patrick Kennedy, Attorney Brian Henebry

Legal Specialization Screening Committee (LSSC) Staff participating: Attorney Denise Poncini

1. The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on November 28, 2018. The Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes. Attorney Henebry abstained from this vote.
2. The Committee considered the Connecticut Bar Association's renewal application to certify lawyers as specialists in Worker's Compensation law. After brief discussion, the Committee unanimously approved that the following resolution be forwarded to the Rules Committee:

The Legal Specialization Screening Committee recommends that the Connecticut Bar Association be approved for recertification as a certifier in the specialty area of Workers' Compensation law, for a five year period, pursuant to its application dated February 19, 2021, because in the opinion of the Committee, it meets all of the criteria in the rules and as developed by the Committee to evaluate whether entities should be approved as certifiers, subject to the condition that, if approved, the applicant shall be required to notify promptly the Legal Specialization Screening Committee of any material changes in its methodology for certifying lawyers as specialists during the term of its approval.

3. The Committee considered Attorney Paine's suggestion that entities filing renewal applications be asked to flag any changes, deletions or additions from the prior application. Attorney Poncini noted that the Regulations of the LSSC did not cover this subject. After discussing appropriate terminology, it was determined to recommend to the Rules Committee that the instructions of the Application For Authority to Certify Lawyers as Specialist, JD-ES-63, be revised to add a new Instruction #4 as follows:
 4. Any changes, deletions or additions to the prior application should be itemized in a separate document.

The Committee requested that the form be so revised for the approval of the Committee before its transmission to the Rules Committee for approval.

4. The meeting adjourned at 2:14.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise Poncini".

Denise Poncini

Counsel, Legal Services

Legal Specialization Screening Committee Minutes

August 11, 2021 Meeting
Judicial Branch, Legal Services Unit
2:00pm

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA TEAMS

Members Participating: Attorney Rosemarie Paine (Chair), Attorney Jeffrey Low (Vice Chair), Attorney Robert Dwyer, Attorney Patrick Kennedy, Attorney Brian Henebry

Legal Specialization Screening Committee (LSSC) Staff participating: Attorney Denise Poncini

1. The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on April 27, 2021. The Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes. Attorney Dwyer did not participate in this vote.
2. The Committee considered the American Board of Certification's renewal application to certify lawyers as specialists in Business Bankruptcy and Consumer Bankruptcy law. After brief discussion, the Committee unanimously approved that the following resolution be forwarded to the Rules Committee:

The Legal Specialization Screening Committee recommends that the Connecticut Bar Association be approved for recertification as a certifier in the specialty area of Workers' Compensation law, for a five year period, pursuant to its application dated February 19, 2021, because in the opinion of the Committee, it meets all of the criteria in the rules and as developed by the Committee to evaluate whether entities should be approved as certifiers, subject to the condition that, if approved, the applicant shall be required to notify promptly the Legal Specialization Screening Committee of any material changes in its methodology for certifying lawyers as specialists during the term of its approval.

3. The Committee considered the proposed revision of JD-ES-63, Application for Authority to Certify Lawyers as Specialists to add new Instruction #4 as follows:
 4. Any changes, deletions or additions to the prior application should be itemized in a separate document.

The Committee unanimously approved that the proposed revision be forwarded to the Rules Committee with the recommendation of the LSSC that the revision be approved by the Rules Committee.

4. The meeting adjourned at 2:14.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Poncini
Counsel, Legal Services