

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
APPELLATE DIVISION**

**HANY A. MAWLA
JUDGE**



**HUGHES JUSTICE COMPLEX
25 MARKET STREET
P.O. BOX 977
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0977
(609) 815-2900 ext. 51785**

February 13, 2023

Glenn A. Grant
Administrative Director of the Courts
Attention: Comments on Proposal to Amend the CLE Regulations
Hughes Justice Complex
P.O. Box 037
Trenton, NJ 08625-0037
via email Comments.Mailbox@njcourts.gov

Re: Proposed Amendments to CLE Regulations

Dear Administrative Director Grant:

The Supreme Court Committee on Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Engagement (“SCC-DI&CE”), in its advisory role to the Supreme Court of New Jersey, writes in full support of the proposed changes to the continuing legal education (CLE) regulations set forth in the December 13, 2022 Notice to the Bar.

CLE plays a significant role in supporting the administration of justice and practice of law in New Jersey. The proposed amendments sustain the high standards established by the Court in the area of mandatory CLE requirements.

The proposed amendments align with the SCC-DI&CE mission in that they recognize the value of providing online learning capable of reaching a broad and diverse audience. The incorporation of alternative learning formats including live webinars encourages interactive programming, which lends itself well to teaching important topics such as diversity, inclusion, and interruption/elimination of bias.

The proposed regulations also ensure that courses in diversity, inclusion and elimination of bias continue to meet the high standards established by the Court by providing an understandable and reasonable process for determining eligibility of out-of-state CLE credits for reciprocity purposes. Indeed, the proposed amendment to Regulation 201:4 reads as follows:

In order to meet the requirement for diversity, inclusion, and elimination of bias ethics credit through reciprocity, the course being relied upon through reciprocity must be approved in another mandatory CLE jurisdiction that has such a requirement. Courses taken in this subject area in another mandatory jurisdiction that does not have such a requirement will not be accredited through reciprocity or through individual attorney course accreditation applications.

The SCC-DI&CE thanks the Court for the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments to the current CLE requirements. The Court's continuing leadership in furthering the elimination of bias in the practice of law and administration of justice remains a national model.

Respectfully submitted,



Hany A. Mawla, J.A.D.
Chair, Supreme Court Committee on Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Engagement

cc: Hon. Morris G. Smith, J.A.D., Vice-Chair, SCC DI&CE
Steven D. Bonville, Chief of Staff
Lisa R. Burke, Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Engagement
Program Officer and Committee Staff