#### NOTICE TO THE BAR

# REQUIREMENT FOR CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION IN TECHNOLOGY-RELATED SUBJECTS -- PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CLE REGULATIONS -- REQUEST FOR COMMENT

The Supreme Court in <u>April 2025</u> approved a new Continuing Legal Education (CLE) requirement (one credit per each two-year reporting cycle) in technology-related subjects for all New Jersey licensed attorneys. That new CLE requirement will take effect on or after January 1, 2027.

The Court now seeks comment on the attached proposed amendments to the CLE Regulations, including the proposed definition of "technology-related subjects" as set out in Regulation 103:1(t), to implement this new requirement.

Please send any comments on the proposed amendments by **January 30**, **2026** to:

Hon. Michael J. Blee, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts
Proposed Amendments to CLE Regulations
(Technology-Related Subjects)
Hughes Justice Complex, P.O. Box. 037
Trenton, NJ 08625-0037

Comments may also be submitted via email at the following address: Comments.Mailbox@njcourts.gov.

The Supreme Court will not consider comments submitted anonymously. Thus, those submitting comments by mail should include their name and address, and those submitting comments by email should include their name and email address. Comments are subject to disclosure upon receipt.

Hon. Michael J. Blee, J.A.D.

Michiel & Blie

Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

Date: December 30, 2025

# BOARD ON CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION REGULATIONS

### **PART ONE: GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### REGULATION 101. Application and Citation of Regulations.

101:1. Application. ... no change

101:2. Citation. ... no change

### **REGULATION 102.** Authority, Scope and Purpose.

102:1. Authority. ... no change

**102:2. Scope.** ... no change

102:3. Purpose. ... no change

# **REGULATION 103.** <u>Definitions and Filings.</u>

- **103:1. Definitions.** As used in these regulations, the following defined terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them unless otherwise required by the context:
  - (a) to (s) ... no change
  - (t) "technology-related subjects" include, but are not limited to, developments in artificial intelligence (AI) and other emerging technologies affecting the overall practice of law and specific legal practice areas. Examples are technologies used to gather electronic or digital evidence and authentication of that evidence for use at trial, as well as AI's potential relevance to legal research, discovery practices, brief-writing, and the preparation of court materials. These subjects also pertain to understanding the cybersecurity features of tools for sending, receiving, and storing digital information; and, relatedly, ensuring network, hardware, software, and mobile device security to

prevent, mitigate against, and counter cybersecurity threats and data breaches. Relevant laws and judicial determinations concerning these subjects also are included as potential topics, as well as the formulation and implementation of relevant internal policies for attorneys and outside vendors in both the public and private sectors and those whom they supervise;

(u) [(t)] "undue hardship" shall mean a severe medical condition, natural disaster, family emergency, financial hardship or other compelling good cause reason which in the judgment of the Board renders a lawyer incapable of complying with these regulations; and

(v) [(u)] "year" shall mean a calendar year.

**103:2 Filings**. ... no change

# REGULATION 104. The Board on Continuing Legal Education; Powers and Duties; Staffing and Funding; Audit; Immunities.

**104:1. Board.** ... no change

**104:2. Terms.** ... no change

104:3. Officers. ... no change

**104:4. Quorum.** ... no change

104:5. Powers and Duties. ... no change

**104:6. Staffing and Funding.** ... no change

**104:7. Audit.** ... no change

104:8. Immunities. ... no change

#### PART TWO: CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

#### REGULATION 201. Continuing Legal Education Requirements of Lawyers.

**201:1. Mandatory requirements.** Every active lawyer shall complete twenty-four credit hours of continuing legal education every two years. Of those twenty-four credits, not less than five credits must be in ethics and/or professionalism. At least two of the five hours of credit in ethics and/or professionalism shall be in diversity, inclusion, and elimination of bias. In addition, at least one credit of the twenty-four required credits must be in technology-related subjects.

# **201:2.** Additional mandatory requirements for newly admitted lawyers. ... no change

**201:3.** Carryover. ... no change

**201:4. Reciprocity.** ... no change

201:5. Certified attorneys. ... no change

201:6. Teaching CLE. ... no change

**201:7.** Inns of Court programs. ... no change

201:8. Alternative verifiable learning formats. ... no change

# REGULATION 202. Exemptions, waivers, extensions of time, undue hardship.

202:1. Exemptions. ... no change

202:2. Waivers/undue hardship. ... no change

202:3. Extensions of time. ... no change

### PART THREE: COURSE ACCREDITATION AND APPROVAL

# REGULATION 301. <u>Course Accreditation standards and requirements</u> for course approval.

- **301:1. Course accreditation standards.** ... no change
- **301:2. Fees, recordkeeping and record retention requirements.** ... no change
- 301:3. In-house continuing legal education activities. ... no change
- 301:4. Law school CLE and other degree programs. ... no change
- **301:5.** Hybrid programs. ... no change
- 301:6. Access. ... no change
- 301:7. Presumption against approval. ... no change
- 301:8. Proof of attendance and Certificates of Attendance for live classroom instruction. ... no change
- **301:9.** Alternative verifiable learning formats. ... no change
- **301:10.** Timeliness. ... no change
- **301:11. Compliance obligation.** ... no change
- 301:12. Per-course approval. ... no change
- **301:13. Procedure for approval.** ... no change

# REGULATION 302. Approval of service providers or per-course approval.

- 302:1. In general. ... no change
- 302:2. Standards for approved service providers. ... no change
- **302:3. Application procedure.** ... no change

- 302:4. Effect of approval as an approved service provider; reporting obligations. ... no change
- 302:5. Continuing review. ... no change
- **302:6.** Term of approval; renewal; procedure. ... no change
- **302:7. Revocation.** ... no change
- **302:8. Financial hardship.** ... no change
- **302:9.** Standards for per-course approved service providers. ... no change
- **302:10.** Required notice. ... no change

#### PART FOUR: COMPLIANCE

# REGULATION 401. <u>Confirmation of compliance by lawyers; audit; fees; compliance reporting groups.</u>

- 401:1. Compliance obligation. ... no change
- **401:2.** Compliance reporting groups. ... no change
- 401:3. Transitional reporting requirements. ... no change
- **401:4.** Reporting requirements for newly admitted lawyers. ... no change

# REGULATION 402. Lawyer noncompliance and reinstatement.

- 402:1. Noncompliance. ... no change
- 402:2. Noncompliance fees. ... no change
- 402:3. Effect of failure to comply. ... no change

#### **402:4. Reinstatement.** ... no change

# **PART FIVE: APPEAL PROCESS**

#### REGULATION 501. Petitions for review.

- 501:1. Notice. ... no change
- **501:2. Deposit for Costs.** ... no change
- 501:3. Record on Petition for Review. ... no change
- **501:4. Form of Petition for Review.** ... no change
- 501:5. Service and Filing of Petition for Review. ... no change
- 501:6. Response to Petition for Review. ... no change
- 501:7. Final Determination. ... no change

Note: These regulations were approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education on January 15, 2010, and by the Supreme Court of New Jersey on January 26, 2010; amendments to Regulations 103:1(a), 201:2, 201:6, 201:8, 202:1, and 401:4 were approved by the Board on March 28, 2011 and by the Supreme Court on July 21, 2011 to be effective immediately; amendments to Regulations 103;1(j) and (l), 201:4, 201:6, 201:8, 202:2, 202:3, 302:4, 302:10, 402:1, 402:2, and 402:3. were approved by the Board on September 28, 2012 and by the Supreme Court on October 23, 2012 to be effective November 1, 2012; the amendment to Regulation 201:8 to be applied retroactively; amendments to Regulation 103:1(k) and 201:1 were approved by the Supreme Court on October 20, 2020 to be effective January 1, 2021; Regulations 102:3, 103:1, 201:2, 201:3, 201:4, 201:6, 201:8, 202:1, 202:2, 301:1, 301:4, 301:8, 301:9. 301:11, 301:12, 301:13, 302:1, 302:3, 302:4, 302:5, 302:6, 302:9, 302:10, 401:1, 401:2, 401:4, 402:1. 402:2, 402:3, 402:4 amended, Regulation 103:2 adopted, and Regulation 401:5 deleted by Supreme Court order October 17, 2023 to be effective January 1, 2024; Regulation 202:1(b) amended April 3, 2024 to be effective immediately; Regulations 103:1 and 201:1 amended be effective