

NOTICE TO THE BAR

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO COURT RULE 1:21-2 **(“APPEARANCES *PRO HAC VICE*”) COMMENTS REQUESTED BY** **MARCH 13, 2026**

The Supreme Court is requesting comments on the attached proposed amendments to Rule 1:21-2 (“Appearances *Pro Hac Vice*”) as developed by the New Jersey Lawyers’ Fund for Client Protection (LFCP) in collaboration with its Board of Trustees.

The proposed amendments are intended to reinforce the existing rule to clarify that attorneys who are administratively ineligible to practice in the State for failure to pay their annual Lawyers’ Fund for Client Protection assessment, shall not be permitted to appear *pro hac vice*. This shall include any attorney whose license was revoked pursuant to R. 1:28-2(c).

The LFCP was prompted to propose this amendment after two attorneys whose licenses were revoked pursuant to R. 1:28-2(c) obtained Orders granting *pro hac vice* admission.

Please send any comments in writing by Friday, March 13, 2026, to:

Hon. Michael J. Blee, Acting Administrative Director
Comments on Proposed Rule 1:21-2 Amendments
Hughes Justice Complex; P.O. Box 037
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0037

Comments may also be submitted by email to 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 submitted in response to this notice are subject to public disclosure.

/s/ Michael J. Blee

Hon. Michael J. Blee, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

Dated: February 9, 2026

Rule 1:21-2 Appearances Pro Hac Vice

(a) Conditions for Appearance.

(1) An attorney of any other United States jurisdiction, of good standing there, whether practicing law in such other jurisdiction as an individual or a member or employee of a partnership or an employee of a professional corporation or limited liability entity authorized to practice law in such other jurisdiction, or an attorney admitted in this State, of good standing, may, at the discretion of the court in which any matter is pending, be permitted, pro hac vice, to speak in such matter in the same manner as an attorney of this State who is in compliance with Rule 1:21-1(a)(1). Except for attorneys who are employees of and are representing the United States of America or a sister state, no attorney shall be admitted under this rule without annually complying with Rule 1:20-1(b), Rule 1:28-2, and Rule 1:28B-1(e) during the period of admission. An attorney granted admission pro hac vice in accordance with this rule must include a copy of the order granting such permission when submitting to the New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection the annual fee provided for by Rule 1:20-1 and the other rules referred to herein. An attorney admitted both in this State and any other jurisdiction shall not, however, be permitted to appear pro hac vice [if for any reason disqualified from practice in this State] in any court, agency, or tribunal of this State if that attorney is administratively ineligible to practice law in New Jersey. This shall include any attorney whose license was revoked pursuant to R. 1:28-2(c).

(2) A foreign attorney (licensed outside the United States), of good standing there, whether practicing law in such foreign jurisdiction as an individual or a member or employee of a partnership or an employee of a professional corporation or limited liability entity authorized to practice law in such foreign jurisdiction, may, at the discretion of the court in which any matter is pending, be permitted, pro hac vice, to speak in such matter in the same manner as an attorney of this State who is in compliance with Rule 1:21-1(a)(1). A foreign attorney may not advise the client on the substantive law of a United

States jurisdiction or on procedural issues. New Jersey counsel must accompany the foreign attorney at all proceedings. No foreign attorney shall be admitted under this rule without annually complying with Rule 1:20-1(b), Rule 1:28-2, and Rule 1:28B-1(e) during the period of admission. A foreign attorney granted admission pro hac vice in accordance with this rule must include a copy of the order granting such permission when submitting to the New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection the annual fee provided for by Rule 1:20-1 and the other Rules referred to herein. A foreign attorney admitted both in this State and any other jurisdiction shall not, however, be permitted to appear pro hac vice [if for any reason disqualified from practice in this State] in any court, agency, or tribunal of this State if that attorney is administratively ineligible to practice law in New Jersey.

(3) For purposes of this section, "administratively ineligible" includes, but is not limited to, attorneys who are ineligible to practice for failure to pay the annual Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection assessment. An attorney who is administratively ineligible to practice law in New Jersey for failure to pay the annual Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection assessment may be admitted pro hac vice after the attorney has cured such ineligibility by paying all Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection assessments that were outstanding at the time the attorney became ineligible. An attorney who resigned from the New Jersey bar in good standing pursuant to Rule 1:20-22 is not considered administratively ineligible for purposes of this rule.

(b) Application for Admission. ...no change.

(c) Contents of Order. ...no change.

(d) Appearances in Subsequent Courts. ...no change.

(e) Revocation of Permission to Appear. ...no change.

Note: Source -- R.R. 1:12-8. Amended December 16, 1969 effective immediately; caption and text amended November 27, 1974 to be effective April 1, 1975; amended January 10, 1979 to be

effective immediately; former rule amended and redesignated as paragraphs (a) and (b) and paragraph (c) adopted July 22, 1983 to be effective September 12, 1983; paragraph (a) amended January 31, 1984 to be effective February 15, 1984; new paragraph (c) adopted and former paragraph (c) redesignated as paragraph (d) November 1, 1985 to be effective January 2, 1986; paragraph (a) amended November 5, 1986 to be effective January 1, 1987; paragraph (a) amended July 14, 1992 to be effective September 1, 1992; paragraphs (b)(2) and (3) amended July 13, 1994 to be effective September 1, 1994; paragraph (a)(1)(iv) added June 28, 1996 to be effective September 1, 1996; paragraph (a) amended July 10, 1998 to be effective September 1, 1998; paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (a)(1)(ii), (a)(1)(iii), and (a)(1)(iv) amended and redesignated as (a)(1)(A), (a)(1)(B), (a)(1)(C), and (a)(1)(D) July 5, 2000 to be effective September 5, 2000; paragraph (a) amended and subsections of paragraph (a)(3) redesignated from (i) through (vi) to through (F) July 12, 2002 to be effective September 3, 2002; paragraph (a) amended, portion of paragraph (a) redesignated as new paragraph (b), and former paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) redesignated as (c), (d), and (e) July 28, 2004 to be effective September 1, 2004; paragraph (a) amended July 9, 2013 to be effective September 1, 2013; paragraph (a) amended and redesignated as (a)(1), new paragraph (a)(2) adopted, paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(1)(A) amended, new paragraph (b)(1)(E) adopted, paragraph (b)(2) amended, paragraphs (b)(3)(D) and (E) amended August 1, 2016 to be effective September 1, 2016; subparagraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) amended and new subparagraph (3) adopted effective .