FAQs: Changes to New Lawyer Mentoring Program

Effective January 21, 2022

What rules have changed and when do the new rules take effect?

Following the recommendation of the Board of Governors the Supreme Court entered an order amending MCLE Rule 2.4 and adopting a new MCLE Rule 7.8 to allow for removal of mentors in the New Lawyer Mentor Program (NLMP). The Court ordered these amendments effective January 21, 2022.

When can a NLMP Mentor be removed?

MCLE Rule 2.4(d) now allows for removal of an NLMP Mentor against whom charges of misconduct have been approved for filing by the State Professional Responsibility Board or who has been suspended under BR 7.1 for failure to respond to requests for information or records or to respond to a subpoena.

The mentor shall be removed from participation in the NLMP until those charges have been resolved by final decision or order. If an NLMP mentor is suspended from the practice of law as a result of a final decision or order in a disciplinary proceeding, the member may not resume service as an NLMP mentor until the member is once again authorized to practice law.

For the purposes of this rule and rule 7.8(a), charges of misconduct include authorization by the SPRB to file a formal complaint pursuant to BR 4.1, Disciplinary Counsel’s notification to the court of a criminal conviction pursuant to BR 3.4(a), and Disciplinary Counsel’s notification to the court of an attorney’s discipline in another jurisdiction pursuant to BR 3.5(a).

Click here to view the Supreme Court order and the amended language of the MCLE Rules and Regulations.