

SUPREME COURT OF OKLAHOMA

In re: Amendments to Rule 9, Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law in the State of Oklahoma

2022 OK 17 (Okla. 2022) · Decided February 22, 2022

SUMMARY

The Supreme Court of Oklahoma amended Rule 9 of the Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law in Oklahoma. The amendment addresses temporary permits to practice law, including eligibility, applications, public convenience and necessity, qualified legal services providers, and the disqualification of applicants who previously failed an Oklahoma bar examination.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of Oklahoma
JURISDICTION	Oklahoma
DECIDED	February 22, 2022
DISPOSITION	approved
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The Supreme Court of Oklahoma exercised its rulemaking authority to amend Rule 9 of the Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law in the State of Oklahoma.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	published

TOPICS

rulemaking administrative law

PRACTICE AREAS

legal ethics and professional responsibility bar admission

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether Rule 9 of the Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law in the State of Oklahoma should be amended.
- What requirements and limitations should govern temporary permits to practice law under amended Rule 9.

HOLDINGS

1. Rule 9 of the Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law in the State of Oklahoma is amended as set forth in Exhibit A.
2. Temporary permits may be granted, subject to Rule 9(C), until the conclusion of the next succeeding bar examination and reporting of its results upon recommendation of the Board of Bar Examiners, a showing of public convenience and necessity or extreme hardship in the private sector, and passage of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination; applicants must file a temporary-permit application in addition to a regular bar-examination application.
3. A qualified legal services provider is a not-for-profit legal services organization primarily serving low-income clients or a legal department within a not-for-profit organization employing at least one full-time lawyer to provide legal services to low-income clients.
4. An applicant who has failed a prior Oklahoma Bar Examination is ineligible for a temporary permit to practice law in Oklahoma.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The Court considered an amendment to Rule 9, which governs temporary permits to practice law in Oklahoma. The amendment addressed eligibility, application requirements, recommendations by the Board of Bar Examiners, the definition of a qualified legal services provider, and ineligibility for applicants who previously failed an Oklahoma bar examination.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The matter was presented to the Supreme Court of Oklahoma for consideration of amendments to Rule 9 governing temporary permits to practice law. The Court adopted the amendment by order in conference and made it effective March 1, 2022.

DISPOSITION

approved

OPINION

PER CURIAM.

AMENDMENT TO RULE 9 RULES GOVERNING ADMISSION TO PRACTICE OF LAW
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AMENDMENT TO RULE 9 RULES GOVERNING ADMISSION TO PRACTICE OF LAW2022
OK 17Decided: 02/22/2022THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA Cite as:
2022 OK 17, __ P.3d __ IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO RULE 9, RULES GOVERNING

ADMISSION TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW IN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA, 5 O.S.2021, ch. 1, app.

5. Rule 9 of the Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law in the State of Oklahoma, 5 O.S.2021, ch. 1, app. 5, is hereby amended as shown in the attached Exhibit "A." The amended rule shall be effective March 1, 2022. DONE BY ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT IN CONFERENCE THIS 22ND DAY OF February, 2022. /S/CHIEF JUSTICE ALL JUSTICE CONCUR Exhibit A Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law in the State of Oklahoma Chapter 1, App.

5 Rule 9. Temporary Permits A. Subject to the limitation of Subsection C, tTemporary permits to practice law until the conclusion of the next succeeding bar examination and report of the results thereof may be granted upon the recommendation of the Board of Bar Examiners after a showing of public convenience and necessity, which shall include but not be limited to a showing by a qualified legal services provider as defined in subsection B of this rule, or in the private sector where a case of extreme hardship is shown, provided the applicant has taken and passed the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination.

All applicants for temporary permit to practice law shall file with the Board of Bar Examiners an application for such temporary permit in addition to regular application for admission to the bar examination. The Board shall, as soon as practicable, report its recommendation on such application for temporary permit to the Supreme Court, together with a copy of such application.

B. A "qualified legal services provider" means a not for profit legal services organization whose primary purpose is to provide legal services to low income clients or a legal department within a not for profit organization that employs at least one (1) lawyer full-time to provide legal services to low income clients. C. Any applicant who has failed a prior Oklahoma Bar Examination shall not be eligible for a temporary permit to practice law in Oklahoma.

Citationizer© Summary of Documents Citing This Document Cite Name Level Title 5. Attorneys and the State Bar CiteNameLevel 5 O.S. Rule 9, Temporary PermitsCited Citationizer: Table of Authority Cite Name Level None Found. oscn EMAIL: webmaster@oscn.net Oklahoma Judicial Center 2100 N Lincoln Blvd. Oklahoma City, OK 73105 courts Supreme Court of Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals Court of Civil Appeals District Courts decisions New Decisions Supreme Court of Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals Court of Civil Appeals programs The Sovereignty Symposium Alternative Dispute Resolution Early Settlement Mediation Children's Court Improvement Program (CIP) Judicial Nominating Commission Certified Courtroom Interpreters Certified Shorthand Reporters Accessibility ADA Contact Us Careers Accessibility ADA

