



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

FILED

Administrative Minutes

May 14, 2021

Thérèse S. Barnes

Clerk/Court Executive

SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

The following order was passed:

IN RE: STATE BAR RULE 8-106 (B) and 8-107 (A).

State Bar Rule 8-104 (A) provides, subject to certain exemptions, that “[e]ach active member [of the State Bar] shall complete a minimum of twelve hours of actual instruction in an approved continuing legal education activity during each year.” State Bar Rule 8-106 (B) Regulations (8) (e) and (15) allow lawyers to earn up to six hours of credit through certain self-study, in-house, or distance-learning continuing legal education activities, but the remaining six hours must be earned by personal attendance at an approved continuing legal education program. State Bar Rule 8-107 (A) provides an automatic grace period until March 31 of the succeeding year to make up any deficiency.

Given that the ongoing outbreak of COVID-19 has resulted in the cancellation of many in-person continuing legal education programs and that Georgia lawyers, therefore, have limited access to programs at which they may fulfill the requirement of personal attendance at such programs, the Court temporarily suspended State Bar Rule 8-106 (B) Regulations (8) (e) and (15) to the extent that those Regulations limit lawyers to six hours of credit through self-study, in-house, or distance-learning continuing legal education activities. That suspension applied to the CLE hours required to be earned for 2020. The Court also temporarily extended the 2020 grace period through May 31, 2021.

Given that the COVID-19 outbreak is still ongoing and in-person CLE programs will return slowly, the Court determines that it is

appropriate to again suspend the limitation on self-study, in-house, and distance-learning CLE programs for the 2021 year. Effective immediately and continuing through March 31, 2022, lawyers may earn all or any portion of the required twelve hours for 2021 through self-study, in-house, or distance-learning continuing legal education activities under Regulations 8 (e) and (15), so long as those activities otherwise satisfy the requirements of those Regulations. This temporary, partial suspension of Regulations 8 (e) and (15) shall apply to continuing legal education activities completed on or before the grace period of March 31, 2022.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA
Clerk's Office, Atlanta

I certify that the above is a true extract from the minutes of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Witness my signature and the seal of said court hereto affixed the day and year last above written.

 , Clerk