

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

On June 26, 2026, the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia made and entered the following order:

RE: REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AMENDMENTS TO WEST VIRGINIA STATE BAR BYLAW 2.07, No. 26-213

On April 20, 2026, Kevin Baker, Executive Director of the West Virginia State Bar, submitted to the Court proposed amendments to Bylaw 2.07 of the West Virginia State Bar Bylaws regarding the membership enrollment of judicial members of the West Virginia State Bar. Mr. Baker also submitted a cover letter stating that the proposed amendments to Bylaw 2.07 were approved at the West Virginia State Bar Annual Meeting under Bylaw 11.01 (Amendments at annual meeting).

Under Article VIII, §§ 1 and 3 of the West Virginia Constitution, the Court has jurisdiction to promulgate, amend, or abrogate court rules. Under Bylaw 11.01 of the Bylaws of the West Virginia State Bar, bylaw amendments must be finally approved for adoption by this Court. By that authority, the Court has considered proposed amendments to West Virginia State Bar Bylaw 2.07.

Upon consideration and review, the Court is of the opinion that the following amendments to West Virginia State Bar Bylaw 2.07 should be published for a period of public comment for 30 days. Comments may be filed in writing with the Office of the Clerk on or before July 27, 2026. Additions are indicated by underscoring, and deletions are indicated by strike-through.

Bylaws of the West Virginia State Bar

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Bylaw 2.07. Judicial Members.

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(d) A Family Court Judge, Circuit Court Judge, Intermediate Court of Appeals Judge, or Supreme Court Justice who has been approved by order of the Supreme Court of Appeals to continue serving solely as a judicial officer under senior status, or temporary status if a Family Court Judge, shall be enrolled as a judicial member as long as the senior or temporary status is effective. A Circuit Court Judge, Intermediate Court of Appeals Judge, or Supreme Court Justice who has been approved by order of the Supreme Court of Appeals to serve as a judicial officer under senior status and to return to the active practice of law, or a temporary Family Court Judge not serving in such capacity on a full-time basis who is also engaged in the practice of law, shall be enrolled as an active member as long as they are engaged in the active practice of law, and shall abide by all requirements for active membership.

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A True Copy

Attest: /s/ C. Casey Forbes
Clerk of Court

