RE: Proposal to Amend Rule 22(b) of the Rules of the Supreme Court of the State of Hawai‘i

MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION--NEW ETHICS CREDIT FOR MENTAL-HEALTH SENSITIVITY TRAINING

The Supreme Court of Hawai‘i seeks public comment regarding a proposed amendment to Rule 22(b) of the Rules of the Supreme Court of the State of Hawai‘i, in response to the Report of the Hawai‘i Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being, to add to the list of approved subjects for ethics training the topic of preventing, detecting, and treating mental-health disorders. The proposed amendment is attached.

Comments about the proposed amendment should be submitted, in writing, no later than Wednesday, December 29, 2021, to the Judiciary Communications & Community Relations Office, by mail to 417 South King Street, Honolulu, HI 96813, by facsimile to 539-4801, or via the Judiciary’s website.

Attachment
Rule 22. MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION.

(b) Ethics and Professional Responsibility Minimum. At least once every 3 years in which CLE credits are required, every active member shall complete 1 hour of approved ethics or professional responsibility education. This credit hour shall count toward the annual CLE requirement. “Ethics or professional responsibility education” means those courses or segments of courses devoted to:

1. the Rules of Professional Conduct;
2. the professional obligations of the lawyer to the client, the judicial system, the public and other lawyers;
3. the prevention, detection, and/or treatment of mental-health disorders and substance abuse and its effects on lawyers and the practice of law; or
4. client trust administration, bias awareness and prevention, and access to justice.

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