

Supreme Court of the Philippines MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION OFFICE 4th Floor, IBP Building 15 Doña Julia Vargas Avenue Ortigas Center, Pasig City

RESOLUTION OF THE MCLE GOVERNING BOARD TO REQUIRE LAWYERS TO SUBMIT THEIR ATTORNEYS' COMPLIANCE WITHOUT NEED OF ATTACHING THEIR CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE ISSUED BY THEIR MCLE PROVIDERS

RESOLUTION NO. 01-2009

WHEREAS, Bar Matter No. 850 particularly Rule 11, General Compliance Procedure, states:

"SECTION 1. Compliance Report - Each member shall secure from the MCLE Committee a Compliance Report Form before the end of his compliance period. He shall complete the card by attesting under oath that he has complied with the education requirement or that he is exempt, specifying the nature of the exemption. Such Compliance Report must be returned to the Committee not later than the day after the end of the member's compliance period.

SEC. 2. Member record keeping requirement. – Each member shall maintain a sufficient record of compliance or exemption, copy furnished the MCLE Committee. The record required to be provided to the members by the provider pursuant to Section 3 (c) of Rule 9 should be a sufficient record of attendance at a participatory activity. A record of non-participatory activity shall also be maintained by the member, as referred to in Section 3 of Rule 5."

WHEREAS, the MCLE Office has been flooded with numerous complaints from lawyers regarding the difficulty of securing from the MCLE Providers their Certificates of Attendance for seminars that were conducted in 2001 to 2004 or during the First Compliance Period of the MCLE program;

WHEREAS, the requirement for lawyers to submit to the MCLEO their Compliance Reports with their records of attendance from the MCLE Providers is not only a burden for the lawyers but for the MCLE Office as well which has to sort, verify, evaluate and countercheck the data therein with the existing records of the MCLE Office;

WHEREAS, the said requirement may now be waived inasmuch as the MCLE Office has already installed a computer database program, developed by CD Technologies Asia, Inc. and the MCLEO Staff, where all the seminars, attendance, credits and compliance status of every member of the IBP is stored, monitored and evaluated, and his Compliance Record or Report may be printed;

WHEREFORE, the Board resolved to utilize the existing records of the MCLE Office, through its MCLE computer database program, to determine the compliance status of lawyers vis-à-vis the MCLE requirement, and to dispense with the submission of the Certificates of Attendance from the Providers, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That while accredited MCLE Providers shall issue to the attendees/participants of MCLE activities or programs MCLE Certificates of Attendance showing the credit units earned by the attendees or participants, said certificate need not be submitted to the MCLE Office together with the lawyer's Compliance Report;
- (b) That every lawyer's MCLE Compliance Report should be under oath;
- (c) That in case of conflict or discrepancy between the lawyer's Compliance Report and the record of the MCLE Office, the lawyer must submit proof that he has duly earned such credits or already completed his MCLE requirements;
- (d) That lawyers who fail to submit their Attorney's MCLE Compliance Report within ten (10) days after the end of each compliance period, shall pay the Late Filing Fee (LFF) in accordance with the MCLE Schedule of Fees.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

25 February 2009.

Approved: ** MCLE Governing Board

OLINA C. GRIÑO-AQUINO Chairperson

FELICIANO M. BAUTISTA Member, representing the IBP

DAVICO L. CÓNCEPCION Member, representing the U.P. Law Center

CESAR L. VILLANUEVA Member, representing the Philippine Judicial Academy

ANDRES D. BAUTISTA Member, representing the Philippine Association of Law Schools