



Supreme Court of the Philippines
MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION OFFICE
“Ignorantia Legis Neminem Excusat”

Chairperson:

MINERVA P. GONZAGA-REYES
Supreme Court Associate Justice (Ret.)

Members:

SEDFREY M. CANDELARIA
Representative
Philippine Judicial Academy

NILO T. DIVINA
Representative
Philippine Association of Law Schools

ABDIEL DAN ELIJAH S. FAJARDO
Representative
Integrated Bar of the Philippines

FIDES C. CORDERO-TAN
Dean
University of the Philippines College of Law

MCLE GOVERNING BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 03-2019

(Resolution Setting the Standard for Exemption of Bar Reviewers and Professors of Law who have Teaching Experience for at Least Ten (10) Years in Accredited Law Schools)

WHEREAS, Rule 7, section 1 (j) of Bar Matter No. 850 and Section 5 (e) (1) of its Implementing Rules and Regulations enumerate the parties exempted from the MCLE, among whom are:

“Incumbent deans, bar reviewers and professors of law who have teaching experience for at least ten (10) years in accredited law schools;”

WHEREAS, Rule 3, Section 1 of Bar Matter No. 850 provides the initial compliance period, further clarified in Sec. 3 of its IRR which provides:

*“Sec. 3. Compliance Period – the initial compliance period shall be from **April 15, 2001 up to April 14, 2004.** (emphasis supplied). All succeeding compliance periods shall begin the day after the end of the preceding compliance period. The initial compliance period for members newly admitted or readmitted to the IBP shall begin the first day of the month of admission or readmission and shall end on the same time as that of all other members.”;*

WHEREAS, although the compliance periods were clearly established in Rule 3 of the Implementing Regulations of Bar Matter No. 850, there is a need to clarify the exemption of law professors who may be eligible for exemption particularly for compliance period/s relative to the ten (10) – year teaching experience requirement;

WHEREFORE, in its meeting on 19 February 2019, pursuant to Rule 7 Section 1 (j), of Bar Matter No. 850, the MCLE Governing Board resolved to exempt members of the bar who have teaching experience for at least ten (10) years in accredited law schools, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The applicant shall file a verified application for exemption attaching thereto a certificate from the accredited law school particularly identifying the subjects taught per year/s and semester/s;
- (b) The application may only be granted for the corresponding compliance period coinciding with the completion of the ten (10) – year teaching period;
- (c) For bar reviewers, for purposes of counting the ten (10)-year teaching experience, the same must be rendered in a law school-based review center or in a review center affiliated with a law school; otherwise the same shall be considered for granting of credit units only;



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- (d) First time applications for exemption as bar reviewer and professor of law shall be accompanied by present proof of continuous, cumulative and uninterrupted teaching for at least ten years which must fall within the compliance period applied for;
- (e) For subsequent applications, the tacking of teaching experience to complete the ten (10) year requirement may be allowed provided that no more than two (2) year gap in teaching experience shall be permitted. Should the gap exceed the 2-year grace period, the ten (10) year requirement is reset and counting commences from the resumption of teaching.
- (f) The qualification must be present during the corresponding compliance period;
- (g) “Accredited law schools” pertain to those accredited by the Legal Education Board and recognized by the MCLE Governing Board.

Teaching law subjects not within the above stated definition shall not be considered for exemption.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

19 February 2019.

Approved:

MCLE Governing Board

J. MINERVA G. REYES (ret.)

Chairperson

SEDFREY M. CANDELARIA
Member, representing Philippine
Judicial Academy

NILO T. DIVINA
Member, representing Philippine
Association of Law Schools

ABDIEL DAN ELIJAH S. FAJARDO
Member, representing Integrated
Bar of the Philippines

FIDES C. CORDERO-TAN
Member, representing UP Law
Center