



Supreme Court of the Philippines
MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION OFFICE
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Tel. Nos. 8687-7349 / 8637-6268

MCLE Governing Board Resolution No. 04-2022

(Resolution Recommending the Amendment of the Qualification Requirements of the Chairperson, MCLE Governing Board and Clarification of the Term of Office of the Members Thereof)

WHEREAS, Rule 15, Section 1, Bar Matter No. 850 provides, among others, that *“The MCLE Committee shall be composed of five (5) members, namely, a retired Justice of the Supreme Court as Chair, and four (4) members respectively nominated by the IBP, the Philippine Judicial Academy, a law center designated by the Supreme Court and association of law schools and/or law professors.*

The members of the Committee shall be of proven probity and integrity. They shall be appointed by the Supreme Court for a term of three years and shall receive such compensation as may be determined by the Court”;

WHEREAS, for the past twenty-one (21) months, the MCLE Governing Board is without a permanent Chairperson and is under the leadership of Dean Sedfrey M. Candelaria, Member, representing the Philippine Judicial Academy, who was designated as Officer-in-Charge, in a Court Resolution dated 17 November 2020 in B.M. No. 850;

WHEREAS, the MCLE as the legal education program of the Supreme Court for members of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) for the purpose of harnessing their legal knowledge, skills and competence, should be governed and guided by a Chairperson who is deeply rooted in the field of legal education;

WHEREAS, the MCLE is in the process of refocusing and revising its curriculum and is gearing towards specialized and sub-specialized programs in various fields of law to better serve the interest of the members of the Bar; hence, the MCLE Governing Board, especially its Chairperson, must be highly qualified and experienced educators and members of the academe, among other requirements;

WHEREAS, in the past, there were also some concerns on the term of office of the members of the Integrated Bar of Philippines (IBP) and the Philippine Association of Law Schools (PALS), as their respective terms of office as incumbent Presidents do not coincide with the term of office of MCLE Board members which is fixed for three (3) years under the Rules; hence, the need for clarification to avoid confusion in future appointments;

WHEREFORE, in view thereof, the MCLE Governing Board respectfully recommends the following:

1. The members of the Board shall be composed of the following:
A Chairperson who shall preferably be a retired member of the Supreme Court or any appellate body with an established background in the field of legal education;

Members:

- Representative of the IBP who shall be the incumbent President;
- Representative of the Philippine Association of Law Schools (PALS) who shall be the incumbent President;
- Representative of the Philippine Judicial Academy (PhilJA);
- Representative of UP Law Center;

2. The terms of office of the Chairperson and Members of the MCLE Governing Board shall be for three (3) years from the date of their respective appointments except for the representatives of the IBP and PALS whose terms shall at all times coincide with their incumbency as Presidents of their organizations;
3. In case of vacancy in any position within the MCLE Governing Board prior to expiration of the term of office, the successor shall serve only the remaining period of the original appointment subject to the exception provided in the previous paragraph involving the IBP and PALS.

Any existing provision in Bar Matter No. 850 or other issuances which is inconsistent with the foregoing shall be deemed amended.

September 06, 2022

APPROVED BY:

MCLE GOVERNING BOARD



SEDFREY M. CANDELARIA

Officer-in-Charge



EDGARDO CARLO L. VISTAN II

Member



MARISOL DL. ANENIAS

Member



BURT M. ESTRADA

Member