

MAY 2 2003

FILED

CJ-84-2163

No. ~~C3-02-163~~

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
IN SUPREME COURT

In re:

**The Amendment of the Rules of the Minnesota  
Supreme Court and State Board for Continuing  
Legal Education of Members of the Bar**

**REQUEST OF MINNESOTA CLE FOR HEARING**

Petitioner Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, through its Board of Directors, requests that the Court schedule a hearing to allow it to be heard on the proposed modification to the rules relating to accreditation of continuing legal education.

In support of this request, Petitioner would show:

1. The present rules have been in place since 1975. The rules are widely acknowledged to have succeeded in elevating Minnesota lawyers' abilities to serve the needs of their clients. Other states have viewed these Minnesota Rules as the national standard for the past 27 years.
2. The heart of the Minnesota Rules has been that credit is granted for legal education directly related to the practice of law or to the professional responsibility or ethical obligations of participants (and more recently, elimination of bias was also added).
3. In its order in this matter dated January 23, 2003 the Minnesota Supreme Court has asked for an expansion of the traditional scope of course matter eligible for accreditation. CLE would be expanded to allow accreditation for courses in the area of personal development related to professional development. The Supreme Court has

recognized in the Order that there will be a need for articulation of course definitions, educational goals, and approval criteria.

4. This proposed change in the Rules has the potential to change significantly the legal education course content in the State of Minnesota. In addition, there are bound to be future questions on the scope and criteria for accreditation.

5. The Board of Continuing Legal Education of the Minnesota State Bar Association is committed to the delivery of the highest quality education for Minnesota lawyers. We believe a hearing would assist the Court in considering these important issues.

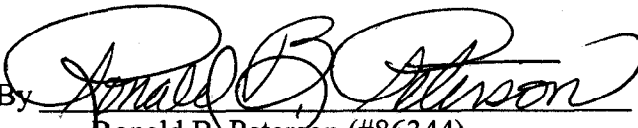
Accordingly, the Minnesota Continuing Legal Education Board of Directors of the State Bar Association respectfully requests a hearing on this proposed change to the Rules. We would like an opportunity to address the Supreme Court, explain our concerns, and answer any questions the Court may have relating to the impacts of the proposed change, as well as course definitions and approval criteria.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 27, 2003.

MINNESOTA CONTINUING LEGAL  
EDUCATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By



Ronald B. Peterson (#86344)

Its Chairman

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PETITIONER

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