

46994

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

In re Minnesota Rules on Lawyers  
Professional Responsibility

O R D E R

WHEREAS, certain amendments to the Court Rules on Professional Responsibility have been recommended by the Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board and endorsed by the Minnesota State Bar Association at its convention on June 18, 1976, and

WHEREAS, this Court on September 10, 1976, held a hearing on the recommended amendments together with further recommendations of the Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board, and is fully advised in the premises,

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, effective January 1, 1977, to govern all proceedings commenced after they take effect and all further procedures in proceedings then pending, the amendments are adopted as recommended by the Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board, except that

(1) Rule 6(c) shall be added, to provide:

"(c) Attorney General. The Director shall notify the Attorney General of each complaint made to him or reported to him by a District Chairman. The Director shall inform each complainant that if he is not satisfied with the disposition made by the Director, he may take his complaint to the Attorney General. Unless otherwise directed by this Court, the Director may allow the Attorney General access to files, records, and proceedings of the District Committees, the Board, and the Director, subject to the Attorney General's agreement to keep them confidential as provided in Rule 20(a). Upon petition by the Attorney General, a Panel may make any disposition specified in Rule 9(e). Upon appeal by the Attorney General, this Court may direct the Panel to make any disposition specified in Rule 9(e) or may take any other action as the interests of justice may require."

(2) Rule 19(a) shall provide:

"(a) Criminal conviction. A lawyer's criminal conviction in any jurisdiction, even if upon a plea of nolo contendere or subject to appellate review, is, in proceedings under these Rules, conclusive evidence that he committed the conduct for which he was convicted."

(3) The introductory portion of Rule 20(b) shall provide:

"(b) Special matters. The following may be disclosed by the Director:"

(4) Rule 21 shall provide:

"RULE 21. PRIVILEGE. A complaint or charge, or statement relating to a complaint or charge, of a lawyer's alleged unprofessional conduct, to the extent that it is made in proceedings under these Rules, including proceedings under Rule 6(c), or to the Director or a person employed thereby or to a District Committee, the Board or this Court, or any member thereof, is absolutely privileged and may not serve as a basis for liability in any civil lawsuit brought against the person who made the complaint, charge, or statement."

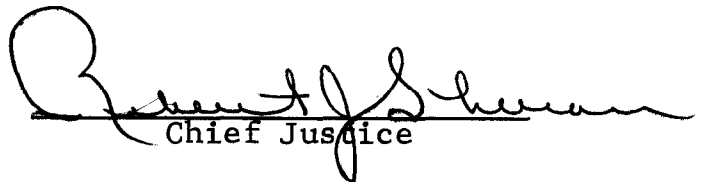
DATED: November 1, 1976

SUPREME COURT  
FILED

NOV 1 1976

JOHN McCARTHY,  
CLERK

BY THE COURT:

  
Chief Justice