

Definitions and Explanations for Attorney Status

Active – The attorney is current with annual payments to the [New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection](#), is in compliance with the [IOLTA](#) requirements for attorneys in private practice, is in compliance with the [continuing legal education \(CLE\)](#) requirements, and is otherwise eligible to practice New Jersey law. (This status is not a statement that an attorney is in compliance with the requirements of [Rule 1:21-1 \(a\)](#) for the practice of law or that a professional corporation, LLC, or LLP maintains the mandatory malpractice insurance for practice in that form.)

Administratively Ineligible – The attorney is not currently eligible to practice law in New Jersey for one or more reasons, including failure to pay the annual attorney assessment to the [New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection](#), failure to comply with [continuing legal education \(CLE\)](#) requirements, failure to register with [IOLTA](#) or maintain [IOLTA](#) accounts, or failure otherwise to meet the requirements of [Rule 1:21-1\(a\)](#). Administrative ineligibility is not the result of discipline, but attorneys who are administratively ineligible are not allowed to practice New Jersey law.

Deceased – Based on formal or informal reports, it is believed that the attorney has died.

Disability Inactive – The attorney has been determined to lack the physical or mental capacity to practice law and has been transferred by Order of the Supreme Court to this status until the attorney regains the capacity to practice law. An attorney with this status is not allowed to practice law until restored to Active status by Order of the Supreme Court.

Disbarred – The Supreme Court has permanently stricken the attorney from the roll of attorneys because of unethical conduct. It is a permanent status and the attorney can never again practice New Jersey law.

Disbarred by Consent – The attorney has been permanently stricken from the roll of attorneys with the attorney's written, counseled consent. The attorney has acknowledged allegations of unethical conduct that the attorney cannot successfully defend against. Acceptance of this consent by the Supreme Court prevents the attorney from ever practicing New Jersey law again.

Historical Entry – The attorney's admission to the bar in New Jersey predates the current recordkeeping system. Often, the only information available for such attorneys is the year and court term of admission, so the "Bar Admission Date" may not be the actual date of admission.

License Administratively Revoked – For seven consecutive years, the attorney was declared by Supreme Court Order to be administratively ineligible to practice law for failing to pay the annual attorney assessment to the [New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection](#) and the Supreme Court has revoked the attorney's license on this administrative basis. It is not a status based on discipline, but the attorney is not allowed to practice New Jersey law. Any subsequent application for admission to the New Jersey bar shall be in accordance with the provisions of [Rule 1:27-1](#).

License Expired – If the attorney is an in-house counsel (IHC), the attorney's limited license to practice law has expired either because the lawyer has been admitted to practice subsequently under another provision for admission or the lawyer has ceased to be an employee of the employer listed on the attorney's application for IHC admission. If the attorney is not an IHC, this is the status of an attorney who had a limited license or temporary limited license that expired when the attorney failed to comply

with admission requirements that related to those licenses. Such limited licenses have not been issued since 1982.

License Revoked – The Supreme Court has revoked the attorney’s license to practice New Jersey law. This sort of license revocation usually occurs because of improprieties in the Bar admission process that were not discovered until after admission was granted.

Presumed Deceased – Based on the year of admission and the absence of any current location information, the attorney is presumed to be deceased.

Resigned with Prejudice – Prior to the adoption of the “disbarment by consent” rule, attorneys with serious disciplinary charges against them were permitted to “resign with prejudice,” which permanently terminated their right to practice New Jersey law.

Resigned without Prejudice – The attorney submitted a resignation from the New Jersey bar pursuant to [Rule 1:20-22](#) and it was accepted by the Supreme Court. Only attorneys who have no attorney disciplinary or criminal proceedings pending against them in any jurisdiction may resign without prejudice. Because the resignation is “without prejudice,” the attorney may apply for admission to the New Jersey bar in the future in accordance with [Rule 1:27-1](#).

Retired – The attorney has certified that he or she is “completely retired from the practice of law” and that the attorney’s employment, if any, is not related in any way to the practice of law. The attorney has certified that he or she “does not draft or review legal documents, render legal assistance or advice, teach law, or serve in a court system in any capacity,” in any jurisdiction. An attorney in Retired status is not permitted to practice New Jersey law; provided however, that a retired attorney who certifies to the Supreme Court that the only aspect of the attorney’s participation in legal practice is by providing qualifying pro bono service as defined by [Rule 1:21-11 \(a\)](#) for Legal Services of New Jersey and the associated legal regional programs; for a certified organization under [Rule 1:21-11 \(b\)](#), or for an organization otherwise approved by the Supreme Court, may do so pursuant to those rules. Retired status may not be permanent.

Suspended – The Supreme Court has suspended the attorney’s license to practice New Jersey law because of unethical conduct or failure to comply with certain rules governing attorneys. The suspension may be a temporary suspension or may be for a set period of time, but both types of suspension require an Order of the Supreme Court for the attorney to return to Active status and be eligible to practice again.