


NOTICE TO THE BAR

ATTORNEY REGISTRATION – AMENDMENTS TO RULE 1:20-1(c) – REQUIREMENT FOR ATTORNEYS TO PROVIDE AN EMAIL ADDRESS AND A CELL PHONE NUMBER FOR OFFICIAL JUDICIARY USE

This notice is to advise that the Supreme Court on December 2, 2019 adopted amendments to Rule 1:20-1(c) that codify the Court's earlier rule relaxations that require New Jersey attorneys to provide both an email address and a cell phone number as part of the annual registration process. The amendments to the rule, which are published with this notice, were effective upon adoption. The rule relaxation orders that the rule amendments codify were dated July 20, 2017 (requiring email addresses) and July 29, 2019 (requiring cell phone numbers).

The attorney email address and cell phone number are for use "only for official Judiciary business." That will include being used in the future to implement a more secure two-factor authentication process. The cell phone numbers provided by attorneys will not be subject to public access. The email address provided will not be subject to public access unless that same email address has been provided by the attorney for a public purpose, such as the email address for electronic filing notices.

Questions regarding this notice may be directed to Michelle M. Smith, Clerk of the Superior Court, by email at michelle.smith@njcourts.gov or by telephone 609-815-2900 ext. 54200.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Glenn A. Grant" followed by a stylized monogram "SAB".

Hon. Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

Dated: December 20, 2019

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

It is ORDERED that the attached amendments to Rule 1:20-1 of the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey are adopted to be effective immediately.

For the Court,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stuart Rosen".

Chief Justice

Dated: December 2, 2019

1:20-1. Disciplinary Jurisdiction; Annual Fee and Registration

(a) Generally. ...no change

(b) Annual Fee. ... no change

(c) Annual Registration Statement. To facilitate the collection of the annual fee provided for in paragraph (b), every attorney admitted to practice law in this state, including all persons holding a plenary license, those admitted pro hac vice, those holding a limited license as in-house counsel, those registered as multijurisdictional practitioners, those certified as Foreign Legal Consultants, and those permitted to practice under Rule 1:21- 3(c) shall, on or before February 1 of every year, or such other date as the Court may determine, pay the annual fee and file a registration statement with the New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection (hereinafter referred to as the Fund). The registration statement shall be in a form prescribed by the Administrative Director of the Courts with the approval of the Supreme Court. As part of the annual registration process, each attorney shall certify compliance with Rule 1:28A. All registration statements shall be filed by the Fund with the Office of Attorney Ethics, which may destroy the registration statements after one year. Each lawyer shall file with the Fund a supplemental statement of any change in the attorney's billing address and shall file with the Office of Attorney Ethics a supplemental statement of any change in the home address and the address of the primary law office as required by Rule 1:21-1(a), as well as the main law office telephone number previously submitted and the financial institution or the account numbers for the primary trust and business accounts, either prior to such change or within thirty days thereafter. All persons first becoming subject to this rule shall file the statement required by this rule prior to or within thirty days of the date of admission.

All attorneys subject to this rule shall maintain a valid email address and cell phone number at all times. An attorney shall be required (1) to provide a valid email address and cell phone number as part of the annual registration process and (2) to inform the Court subsequently of any changes to that email address or cell phone number using a form or process determined by the Administrative Director of the Courts. The Judiciary will use this attorney email address and cell phone number only for official Judiciary business. The attorney cell phone number will not be subject to public access. The email address will not be subject to public access unless that same email address also has been provided by the attorney for a public purpose, such as the email address for electronic filing notices.

The information provided on the registration statement shall be confidential except as otherwise directed by the Supreme Court.

(d) Remedies for Failure to Pay or File. ... no change

Note: Adopted February 23, 1978, to be effective April 1, 1978. Any matter pending unheard before a County Ethics Committee as of April 1, 1978 shall be transferred, as appropriate, to the District Ethics Committee or the District Fee Arbitration Committee having jurisdiction. Any matter heard or partially heard by a County Ethics Committee by April 1, 1978 shall be concluded by such Ethics Committee and shall be reported on in accordance with these rules; amended July 16, 1981 to be effective September 14, 1981. Caption amended and first two paragraphs amended and redesignated as paragraph (a); new paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) adopted January 31, 1984 to be effective February 15, 1984; paragraph (c) amended November 5, 1986 to be effective January 1, 1987; paragraph (d) amended June 29, 1990 to be effective September 4, 1990; paragraph (c) amended July 14, 1992 to be effective September 1, 1992; paragraph (c) amended September 15, 1992, to be effective January 1, 1993; caption added to all paragraphs and paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) amended February 8, 1993 to be effective immediately; paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) amended January 31, 1995, to be effective March 1, 1995; paragraph (a) amended July 10, 1998, to be effective September 1, 1998; paragraph (b) amended July 12, 2002 to be effective September 3, 2002; paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) amended July 28, 2004 to be effective September 1, 2004; paragraph (c) amended July 9, 2008 to be effective September 1, 2008; paragraphs (b) and (c) amended July 23, 2010 to be effective September 1, 2010; paragraph (c) amended July 9, 2013 to be effective September 1, 2013; paragraph (c) amended December 2, 2019 to be effective immediately.