



Working to Serve Our Members ... Changes in CLE Administration

Each year, Nevada attorneys must ensure they have met their mandatory continuing legal education obligations and have completed and submitted the required electronic Affirmation of Attendance and Compliance form—while also dealing with the hustle and bustle of the holidays in November and December as the calendar year comes to a close.

Since 1982, the Board of Continuing Legal Education has operated separately from the State Bar of Nevada. During that time, the membership in the State Bar of Nevada has grown from 2,134 to over 11,000. CLE requirements have expanded in both subject matter as well as the number of hours required, and the number of CLE offerings has also expanded. The number of Nevada-approved CLE offerings in 2019 totaled 8,760.

Over the past several years, the Board of Continuing Legal Education, currently chaired by Frank C. Flaherty and a small group of dedicated members of the state bar, including the Honorable Lynne K. Simons, Vice Chair; Richard Dreitzer, Jenny D. Hubach; Roberto Puentes, Jr.; Steve F.

Smith; and its newest member, Sunethra Muralidhara, has worked to improve the administration and implementation of CLE requirements as directed by the Nevada Supreme Court in addition to communicating the requirements to the members of the State Bar of Nevada. Effective August 1, 2021, those efforts resulted in amendments to Supreme Court Rules 208 and 211. As amended, the rules provide that the administration of the Board of Continuing Legal Education will operate in the same manner as other similar entities, such as the Board of Bar Examiners and the Commission on Access to Justice. The amendments recognize that critical functions important to the members of the Bar, judiciary, and public are conducted by policy boards such as the Board of Continuing Legal Education. Serving those functions while the staff of the State Bar of Nevada provides administrative functions, as it does for all other policy boards or commissions, provides operational efficiency and reduced costs for continuing legal education.

The Board of Continuing Legal Education will continue to fulfill its mission: To protect the public by ensuring the availability of quality continuing legal education for members

of the bar and ensuring compliance with the CLE rules. Members will continue to receive excellent customer service and can easily check the status of their CLE credits online at nvcleboard.org, or by visiting the MCLE webpage at www.nvbar.org/mcle and clicking on “Check Credit Hours.” In addition, members can call the State Bar at 1-800-254-2797 and ask to speak to a CLE compliance staff member.

Finally, members are advised to keep the following deadlines in mind:

- **December 31:** Complete annual CLE requirements and submit Affirmation of Attendance and Compliance.
- **January 1:** A \$100 extension fee is assessed upon those attorneys who did not meet the December 31 deadline.
- **March 5:** A \$250 late fee assessed for failure to complete annual credit hour requirements and/or submit annual Affirmation of Attendance and Compliance during the extension period.
- **April 1: Administrative CLE suspension for attorneys who do not completely cure any deficiency by this date.**