

M.R. 26432

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS

In re:)
)
Rule 716 - Limited Admission of House)
Counsel Amnesty Program)
)

ORDER

This matter coming before the Court on the recommendation of the Board of Admissions to the Bar (IBAB) and the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission (ARDC) for the implementation of a Rule 716 amnesty program, and the Court being fully advised in the premises;

IT IS ORDERED that the Rule 716 amnesty program is approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Rule 716 amnesty program shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Any house counsel in violation of the licensing requirements of Rule 716 is eligible for the amnesty program. Under the amnesty program, such house counsel must make application under the current provisions of Rule 716 and meet all the requirements for obtaining a license under that rule.
2. House counsel availing themselves of the amnesty program shall not be required to pay arrearages in licensing fees or make up CLE credits. There will be no investigation as to whether such house counsel were in compliance with all the provisions of Rule 716 for the years they should have been, but were not, licensed.
3. Any house counsel availing him/herself of the amnesty program shall not be prosecuted for unauthorized practice of law.
4. Any attorney who is a co-employee of the house counsel availing him/herself of the amnesty program shall not be investigated pursuant to Rule 8.3 of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct of 2010 in connection with his/her co-employee's failure to be licensed under Rule 716.
5. The previous failure to obtain a Rule 716 license and register with ARDC on a timely basis will not be deemed a problematic character and fitness issue (IBAB) or grounds for attorney discipline (ARDC). However, other problematic matters of concern in an applicant's background

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**SUPREME COURT
CLERK**

will be reviewed by the Committee on Character and Fitness in the usual course before an applicant is certified to the Court as eligible for a Rule 716 license.

6. In addition to the regular application fee of \$1,250, attorneys availing themselves of the amnesty program will be required to pay a late registration penalty of an additional \$1,250. The application fee and late registration penalty shall be deposited with the Board of Admissions to the Bar.

7. The amnesty period shall commence Jan. 1, 2014, and expire one year thereafter.

Order entered by the Court.