

To: Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court  
From: Chief Judge Travis Miller  
Date: June 29, 2020  
RE: Revised Licensing System Authorizing Attorneys and Lay Advocates to Practice

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**ORDER & MEMORANDUM**

The following Order & Memorandum provides revised rules governing the licensing/authorization system of the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court as it pertains to attorneys and lay advocates. The rules provide:

**1. Criteria for Authorization to Practice before the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court**

Persons authorized to Practice before the Tribal Court shall be:

- (a) Any individual eighteen (18) years of age or older,
- (b) (1) Licensed to practice by a State Bar and in good standing with that State Bar, or  
(2) Meet all requirements under Chapter 1.11, Sec. C,<sup>1</sup>
- (c) Have not been convicted of a felony or any act of moral turpitude constituting a crime,
- (d) Have successfully passed the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal bar examination,
- (e) Signed and submitted to the Court a copy of the Attorney/Lay Advocate Oath, and
- (f) Have paid the required admission fee and maintained annual dues payments.<sup>2</sup>

**2. Admissions System for Licensing**

The licensing system is hereby modified to include a revised bar examination for all persons interested in representing clients as an attorney or lay advocate. The bar examination will be held twice a year in the spring and fall (tentatively April and September). The exam will contain twenty-five (25) multiple choice questions, two (2) essay questions, and one (1) multi-performance test. Testable subjects may include any laws under the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Ordinances and Restatements of the Law which are not in conflict with Tribal Law.

Each examinee will be issued an examination number which will be used in place of any personally identifiable information for exam purposes only. Evaluation of exams will be done via “blind grading” process, and by qualified individuals selected by the Chief Judge.

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<sup>1</sup> Under Sec. (C)(2) training requirement, the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court may host a GAL and Lay Advocate training in September to qualify as CLE credits for the upcoming fiscal year (beginning the following October).

<sup>2</sup> Once an attorney or lay advocate allows his or her dues to become delinquent (fees are payable to the Court before the end of the first month initiating the new fiscal year (October)), or fails to meet other requirements under the law, the individual is no longer considered authorized to practice. In order to reinstate, the individual must show proof of completed conditions and successfully pass the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Bar Exam. No special accommodations for examinations outside the scheduled exam dates are permitted.

Additional requirements and details for the exam application will be posted to the Tribal Court website.

The Chief Judge enters this Order & Memorandum pursuant to authority vested under Chapter 1 of the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Code.

This Order takes effect on July 1, 2020.

Order entered this 29<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.



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Chief Judge Travis J. Miller  
Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court

