



Republic of the Philippines  
Supreme Court  
Manila

EN BANC  
NOTICE

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Sirs/Mesdames:

*Please take notice that the Court en banc issued a Resolution dated AUGUST 2, 2022, which reads as follows:*

**“B.M. No. 3865 (Re: Mandatory Continuing Legal Education [MCLE] Exemptions of Bar Examiners and Staff).**

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, this Court is constitutionally mandated to promulgate rules concerning the admission to the practice of law;<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, under Bar Matter No. 850,<sup>2</sup> members of the bar are required to complete at least thirty-six (36) credit hours of continuing legal education activities every three (3) years;<sup>3</sup>

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Rule 7, Section 3 of Bar Matter No. 850, a member of the bar may be exempt from compliance for a good cause, such as physical disability, illness, postgraduate study abroad, proven expertise in law, and other similar grounds;<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 1987 CONSTITUTION, Art. VIII, Sec. 5(5) provides:

Section 5. The Supreme Court shall have the following powers:

x x x x

(5) Promulgate rules concerning the protection and enforcement of constitutional rights, pleading, practice, and procedure in all courts, the admission to the practice of law, the Integrated Bar, and legal assistance to the underprivileged. x x x

<sup>2</sup> ADOPTING THE REVISED RULES ON THE CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE INTEGRATED BAR OF THE PHILIPPINES, October 2, 2001.

<sup>3</sup> Bar Matter No. 850, Rule 2, Sec. 2 provides:

SECTION 2. *Requirements of Completion of MCLE.* – Members of the IBP not exempt under Rule 7 shall complete every three (3) years at least thirty-six (36) hours of continuing legal education activities approved by the MCLE Committee x x x[.]

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*, Rule 7, Sec. 3 provides:

SECTION 3. *Good Cause for Exemption from or Modification of Requirement.*  
– A member may file a verified request setting forth good cause for exemption (such as physical disability, illness, post graduate study abroad, proven expertise in law, etc.) from compliance with or modification of any of the requirements, including an extension of time for compliance, in accordance with a procedure to be established by the MCLE Committee.

**WHEREAS**, for the 2022 Bar Examinations, the Bar Chairperson appointed three (3) Bar Examiners per subject to facilitate the formulation of bar questions and the efficient correction of answers in light of the increasing number of admitted candidates in recent years;<sup>5</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Bar Examiners, who are recognized law experts in their respective fields, are tasked to formulate questions and to evaluate and grade the examinees' answer;

**WHEREAS**, the administration of the 2022 Bar Examinations requires the engagement of Bar Personnel who will be assigned to various local testing centers across the country;

**WHEREAS**, while the Bar Personnel are committed to see the Bar Examinations through, it is understandable that there may be hesitation for some to be assigned to local testing centers or to volunteer for bar duties because of the risks posed by the COVID-19 pandemic;

**WHEREAS**, the preparation and the actual conduct of the Bar Examinations are important Court functions which demand significant time and effort from all involved in the operations;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Court resolved, upon recommendation of Associate Justice Alfredo Benjamin S. Caguioa, Chairperson of the 2022 Bar Examinations, that Bar Examiners and Bar Personnel engaged in the 2022 Bar Examinations are granted MCLE exemption under Rule 7, Section 3 of Bar Matter No. 850, as follows:

- (1) Bar Examiners are exempted for one (1) compliance period;
- (2) Members of the Office of the Bar Chairperson are exempted for one (1) compliance period; and
- (3) Other Bar Personnel are exempted for:
  - (a) one (1) compliance period if they render actual service for four (4) Bar Examination days, OR
  - (b) partial credit of nine (9) units for each Bar Examination day that they render actual service.

The above exemptions are subject to the *proviso* that they complied with all the prescribed protocols and instructions issued by the Bar Chairperson.

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<sup>5</sup> Bar Bulletin No. 1, S. 2022.

The MCLE exemption granted under this Resolution may be applied to any compliance period and is subject to the administrative filing of the attestation of exemption under the MCLE procedures.” Kho, Jr., J., on leave. (adv19)

By authority of the Court:



**MARIFE M. LOMBAO-CUEVAS**  
Clerk of Court <sup>1/1/19</sup>



HON. ALFREDO BENJAMIN S. CAGUIOA (x)  
Associate Justice and Chairperson  
Committee on Continuing Legal Education  
and Bar Matters and Chairperson  
2022 Committee on Bar Examinations  
Supreme Court

Court Administrator

HON. RAUL B. VILLANUEVA (x)

Deputy Court Administrators

HON. JENNY LIND R. ALDECOA-DELORINO (x)

HON. LEO T. MADRAZO (x)

Assistant Court Administrators

HON. LILIAN BARRIBAL-CO (x)

HON. MARIA REGINA ADORACION

FILOMENA M. IGNACIO (x)

Supreme Court

OFFICE OF THE BAR CONFIDANT (x)

Supreme Court

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE (x)

Supreme Court

B.M. No. 3865  
sarah 080222 (URes19) 081522

ATTY. JESUSA JEAN D. REYES (x)

Executive Officer

Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Office (MCLEO)

Integrated Bar of the Philippines

15 Doña Julia Vargas Avenue

Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600

[mcle@sc.judiciary.gov.ph](mailto:mcle@sc.judiciary.gov.ph)

[mcleoffice\\_sc@yahoo.com](mailto:mcleoffice_sc@yahoo.com)

THE MCLE GOVERNING BOARD (x)

4<sup>th</sup> Floor IBP Bldg., 15 Doña Julia Vargas Avenue

Ortigas Center, Pasig City

THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT (x)

Integrated Bar of the Philippines

4<sup>th</sup> Floor IBP Bldg., 15 Doña Julia Vargas Avenue

Ortigas Center, Pasig City

THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR OPERATIONS (x)

Integrated Bar of the Philippines

4<sup>th</sup> Floor IBP Bldg., 15 Doña Julia Vargas Avenue

Ortigas Center, Pasig City

THE PRESIDENT (x)

Philippine Bar Association

Suite 347, Valero Plaza Condominium

Salcedo Village, 124 Valero, Makati

THE CHAIRPERSON (x)

Legal Education Board

G/F Philippine Red Cross Building

Carlos P. Garcia Avenue, UP Campus

Diliman, Quezon City

THE CHAIRPERSON (x)

Philippine Association of Law Schools

Ermita Center Building 1350

Manila