

**Carolyn A. Koegler**

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**From:** Steven Karels <snkarels@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:59 AM  
**To:** RulesComment  
**Subject:** Request for Modification of Rule 36

Request for Modification of Rule 36

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am currently a second year law student at the Massachusetts School of Law (MSLaw), Andover, MA. I have domiciled in New Hampshire since 1985 and I recently retired and am now going to law school. I would like to do intern work and be able, under the supervision of a New Hampshire attorney, to appear before the court system in that intern function in the Summer of 2018.

I have reviewed and studied the current Rule 36 and have noted the following exceptions regarding my future application:

- a. Rule 36 requires an ABA-certified law school and MSLaw is not ABA-certified.
- b. Full-time students are specified and I am a part-time (80% of full time).

I request Rule 36 be amended to read accordingly:

Current Rule 36 portion:

**(3) In order to be eligible to appear:**

**(a) the student shall**

- (1) be enrolled full-time in a law school approved by the American Bar Association. The student shall be deemed to continue to meet this requirement as long as, following graduation, he or she is preparing to take and does take the next State bar examination of the State of his or her choice for which he or she is eligible or, having taken that examination, the student is awaiting publication of the results of, or admission to the bar after passing, that examination;**
- (2) have completed legal studies amounting to at least four semesters, or the equivalent, or have completed two semesters and be enrolled in a law school clinical course with a classroom component geared to training the students for the work, and be of good moral character and fitness;**

Proposed Rule 36 change: (changes are shown in red)

**(3) In order to be eligible to appear:**

**(a) the student shall**

- (1) be enrolled at least at 75% of full-time in a law school approved by the American Bar Association or from a law school that has graduated a number of attorneys who have been admitted to the New Hampshire Bar and are practicing within New Hampshire. The student shall be deemed to continue to meet this requirement as long as, following graduation, he or she is preparing to take and does take the next State bar examination of the State of his or her choice for which he or she is eligible or, having taken that examination, the student is awaiting publication of the results of, or admission to the bar after passing, that examination;**
- (2) have completed legal studies amounting to at least four full-time semesters, or the equivalent, or have completed two semesters and be enrolled in a law school clinical course with a classroom component geared to training the students for the work, and be of good moral character and fitness;**

Supporting Rationale:

- a. **Non-ABA Law School:** Non-traditional students have greater difficulty being accepted into traditional, ABA-approved law schools. MSLaw meets the needs for non-traditional students desiring to study law. The graduates of MSLaw have been successful at passing the Mass Bar examination and also taking a passing the NH Bar. The equivalence and acceptability of MSLaw is demonstrated by a number of its graduates passing the NH Bar and working as attorneys in the State of NH. It would be intrinsically unfair to deny internship activities in NH to current law students otherwise qualified to intern within NH.
- b. **Part-time:** While my first semester was full-time, my primary care physician advised me to reduce to an 80% part-time schooling level for medical reasons. I believe it would be unfair to deny me the opportunity to perform as an intern in NH because of medical limitations.

Thank you,

Steven N. Karels

6 Jennings Road

Salem, NH 03079

(603) 898-3709 (Home)

(603) 401-6739 (Cell)