

#2017-007

Carolyn A. Koegler

From: Kevin Devine <kdevine@devine-law.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 1:32 PM
To: RulesComment
Subject: Comment on Proposed Deletion of Supreme Court Rule 41

Dear Rules Advisory Committee Members,

Thank you for the labor you gladly undertake to improve our system of justice each and every day.

My comment is limited to the proposed elimination of Supreme Court Rule 41. While I understand the interest in clarifying that foreign Professional Corporations and PLLCs be allowed to practice law in New Hampshire, I fear that the complete elimination (rather than amendment) of Rule 41 will open the doors in New Hampshire for non-lawyers to be owners of law firms. To wit, the current version of Rule 41 provides:

“(3) Shareholders, Members, Managers, Officers, Directors, Employees. In addition to other provisions required by law, each limited liability entity shall assure compliance with the following requirements: (a) All owners shall be persons who are duly licensed by this court to practice law in this state, or who are duly licensed by the licensing authority of a state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia. (b) All owners shall be in good standing before this court or before the licensing authority of the jurisdiction(s) in which they are actively engaged in the practice of law.”

If that provision is eliminated in its entirety, the slippery slope of Amazon-owned law firms in NH will be impossible to negotiate and regulate professionally.

Thank you for considering my comments. Again, thanks for all you do for our State of New Hampshire and its citizens.

Best regards.

Kevin C. Devine

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