

**Minutes**

April 11, 2025

The meeting of the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Board was called to order by Board Chair Katie Denmark at 10:01 A.M. on Friday, April 11, 2025. The meeting was held in-person and via videoconference. Board members in attendance were:

Katie Denmark (Chair)  
Chris Bueter  
Darryl Colman  
Merri Hartse  
Efrem Krisher (departed meeting at 1:00 p.m.)  
Henry Phillips

Liaisons and Staff in attendance:

Adelaine Shay	MCLE Board Staff Liaison
Ransom Smith	MCLE Analyst
Renata de Carvalho Garcia	Regulatory Counsel
Kevin Fay	WSBA Board of Governors Liaison

Review of Minutes

The MCLE Board reviewed the minutes from the January 10, 2025, meeting. The Board approved the minutes unanimously.

YMCA Request for Suggested Amendment to Allow Credit for Participating in High School Moot Court Competitions

At its August 9, 2024, meeting, The Washington YMCA Youth & Government division (YMCA) presented a proposal to the Board to consider amending APR 11 to allow attorneys and judges participating in high school mock trial events to earn credit for the work contributed to these events. This request would require a rule amendment, as currently under APR 11(e)(9), credit for is restricted for judging or preparing law schools students for a law school recognized competition. The MCLE Board discussed whether to continue to pursue a rule amendment that would reflect YMCA's proposal. The Board unanimously voted to continue to pursue suggesting a rule amendment. The Board noted that the suggested amendment could also contain language to provide credit for college level mock trials. The Board discussed restricting

credit to approved program only and to restrict credit for judging and writing for a mock trial. The Board determined this is a long-term goal to pursue through the next fiscal year.

### MCLE Board Goals

The MCLE Board recruitment subcommittee gave an update on their efforts to expand recruitment for the MCLE Board. The subcommittee has met three times (2/18/25, 3/17/25, and 4/7/25). Currently, the staff liaison is working with the WSBA Volunteer Manager on creating new materials that can be used to promote the position alongside other Supreme Court Board volunteer positions. Additionally, subcommittee members have been emailing regional affinity bar associations to get the word out about MCLE Board openings, offering to speak at, provide informational materials to, or otherwise engage with county bar associations. The subcommittee intends to reach out to judicial law clerks as well.

The MCLE Board discussed their long-term goal to pursue research regarding Improving, Accessibility, Engagement, and Awareness for CLEs.

The MCLE staff liaison will share a newly drafted MCLE guide, intended to assist newly admitted licensed legal professionals with understanding their MCLE requirements, in order to receive the MCLE Board's feedback.

The MCLE Board discussed strategies to improve member accessibility to earning CLE credit. The MCLE Board is interested in a free and low-cost webpage summarizing the various ways folks can find free and low cost CLEs or earn credit for free. MCLE staff will work with the MCLE Board on creating a webpage. The MCLE Board was also curious to find out why Legal Lunchbox recorded videos were not offered for free.

Additionally, the Board discussed looking into expanding comity to include additional states, particularly those that are geographically close with similar MCLE requirements. MCLE staff agreed to research states that meet that criterion, as well as find out how many members reside in those states and report back at the August meeting.

### Audit Reports

Katherine Denmark summarized three recent audits. Feedback was generally favorable; however, one presenter was found to be somewhat negative which detracted from the overall experience of the CLE. All three audit reports will be given to the CLE sponsors.

### MCLE Updates

The MCLE Staff Liaison, noted, as of April 2, 2025, approximately 97.64% of licensed legal professionals are compliant for the 2022-2024 reporting period. Presuspension notices were sent on March 4, 2025 to licensed legal professionals in the 2022-2024 reporting period who have not completed their MCLE requirements. A list of reminder emails was provided to the MCLE board noting that reminders were sent to those due to report MCLE on 10/18/2024, 11/4/2024, 12/10/2024, 1/28/2025, and 2/18/2025. On 3/4/2025 the Presuspension Notice was mailed to individuals not in compliance.

A reminder was provided to MCLE Board members to view the WSBA Regulatory School video if they have not done so already.

An update was given by Efreem Krisher the MCLE Board representative on the licensure pathways Core Competencies Subcommittee.

An update was given to the MCLE Board on the proposed policy for WSBA's administration of Supreme Court boards that it was sent to the Court on March 17, 2025. This policy was developed by The Task Force Administering Xenial Involvement with Court Appointed Boards (TAXICAB). The Task Force was comprised of six members of the Board of Governors and six representatives from the boards (including a representative from the MCLE Board). The staff liaison provided an update that the policy had recently been adopted by the Court, and further information would be provided to the MCLE Board.

The MCLE Budget summary for February and draft MCLE Budget for FY26 was shared with the MCLE Board.

#### Board Activity Review

The MCLE Board decided by motion on one activity accreditation requests. No listing of these motions is included in order to protect member confidentiality.

#### Petitions

The MCLE Board reviewed and decided by motion 66 staff liaison undue hardship petition decisions. The MCLE Board reviewed and decided by motion on the 6 petitions. No listing of these motions is included to protect member confidentiality.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM. The next regularly scheduled MCLE Board meeting will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> via videoconference format.

Respectfully submitted,  
Adelaine Shay  
MCLE Board Staff Liaison