

Minutes

January 10, 2025

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

Katharine Denmark (MCLE Chair)
Efrem Krisher
Chris Bueter
Darryl Coleman
Merri Hartse
Henry Phillips
Brandon Taga (arrived 10:07)

Liaisons and Staff in attendance:

Adelaine Shay	MCLE Board Staff Liaison
Ingo Mendes	MCLE Analyst

Review of Minutes

The MCLE Board reviewed the minutes from the November 15, 2024, meeting. The Board approved the minutes unanimously.

MCLE Board Goals

The Board will be conducting audits, with each member responsible for reviewing at least two CLE courses, with a focus on accredited sponsors. The Board is also working to improve diversity within the MCLE Board through recruitment efforts. The Board currently is exploring the possibility of eligibility of YMCA Mock Trial Volunteers for MCLE credit. MCLE Board member Henry Phillips expressed interest in joining the MCLE Board recruitment subcommittee.

Medium to Long-Term Goals

The Board discussed strategies to improve member accessibility to CLEs.

Suggestions were made to improve awareness of existing resources, such as mentoring programs, and to strengthen collaboration with other groups, including diversity-focused subcommittees. Expanding outreach to other organizations to create beginner-friendly resources was also recommended.

The Board unanimously agreed to pursue further research regarding Improving Accessibility, Engagement and Awareness for CLE's.

Additionally, the Board discussed looking into expanding comity to include additional states, particularly those with similar MCLE requirements. It was noted that pursuing these changes would require a rule amendment and consideration of differences in MCLE state requirements.

The Board unanimously agreed to explore comity with other states and committed to conducting further research and exploration of this topic.

Audit Reports

Brandon Taga summarized 3 recent audits. Feedback was given CLE sponsors regarding lack of accessibility and interactivity in certain asynchronous presentations.

MCLE Updates

The Board was updated on a recent influx of member inquiries via email and phone, particularly around December 31st, along with a summary of upcoming reminder emails to address upcoming deadlines.

A request was discussed regarding licensure pathways, involving the creation of a subcommittee with an invitation extended to include an MCLE Board representative. Efrem Krisher volunteered to join this subcommittee and will step down from the YMCA Mock Trial Committee.

An update was provided on accredited sponsors, including an explanation of the accreditation process. Board members were encouraged to audit Amazon.com, the newest accredited sponsor, as part of ongoing review efforts.

Petitions

The MCLE Board reviewed and approved by motion 6 staff liaison undue hardship petition decisions.

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 11:19 AM. The next regularly scheduled MCLE Board meeting will be held on April 11th in a hybrid in-person and videoconference format.

Respectfully submitted,
Adelaine Shay
MCLE Board Staff Liaison