## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 19-9041

# ORDER AMENDING RULE 6.3 OF THE RULES OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH CERTIFICATION COMMISSION

#### **ORDERED** that:

- 1. In accordance with Act of May 21, 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., ch. 506 (S.B. 37), Rule 6.3 of the Rules of the Judicial Branch Certification Commission is amended, effective immediately.
- 3. The Clerk is directed to:
  - a. file a copy of this order with the Secretary of State;
  - b. cause a copy of this order to be mailed to each registered member of the State Bar of Texas by publication in the *Texas Bar Journal*;
  - c. send a copy of this order to each elected member of the Legislature; and
  - d. submit a copy of the order for publication in the *Texas Register*.

Dated: June 11, 2019.

John P. Devine, Justice Blacklock, Justice

#### RULES OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH CERTIFICATION COMMISSION

### **6.3** Renewal of Certification or Registration

- (a) Notwithstanding Rule 3.2(b), not later than the 30th day before the date a court reporter's or court reporting firm's certification or registration is scheduled to expire, the Commission will notify the reporter or firm of the impending expiration at the reporter's or firm's last known address according to the Commission's records. Failure to receive the notice does not exempt a court reporter or a court reporting firm from any requirements of these rules.
- (b) Nonrenewal due to student loan default.
  - (1) The Commission must not renew the certification of a certified shorthand reporter who is designated to be in default on loans guaranteed by the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation (TGSLC) under Section 57.491(e) of the Education Code unless the reporter presents to the Board a certificate issued by TGSLC certifying that:
    - (A) the reporter has entered a repayment agreement on the defaulted loan; or
    - (B) the reporter is not in default on a loan guaranteed by TGSLC.
  - (2) The Commission must not renew the certification of a certified shorthand reporter who is designated to be in default on a repayment agreement with TGSLC under Section 57.491(g) of the Education Code unless the reporter presents to the Commission a certificate issued by TGSLC certifying that:
    - (A) the reporter has entered another repayment agreement on the defaulted loan; or
    - (B) the reporter is not in default on a loan guaranteed by TGSLC or on a repayment agreement.
  - (3) The Commission must provide a certified shorthand reporter an opportunity for a hearing under the procedures set out in Rule 5.10 prior to taking action concerning nonrenewal of certification for default on a student loan.

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- (b) (e) To qualify for renewal of certification or registration, a certified court reporter, court reporting firm, or affiliate office must pay all required fees, submit all required forms, and comply with renewal procedures. In addition, certified court reporters must comply with the Commission's continuing education requirements in Rules 4.1-4.3 and 6.6. An application for renewal must state:
  - (1) if the applicant is a court reporter, whether the applicant has been finally convicted of a criminal offense other than a minor traffic offense since the reporter's last certification;
  - (2) if the applicant is a court reporting firm or affiliate office, whether an officer, director, or managerial employee has been finally convicted of a criminal offense other than a minor traffic offense since the firm's or affiliate office's last registration; and
  - (3) if the applicant is a court reporter, whether the applicant has ever been the subject of a disciplinary action by a licensing authority in another jurisdiction requiring certification, registration, or licensure to provide court reporting services, and whether the applicant is the subject of a pending disciplinary action before the Commission, including actions in which the Commission imposed a sanction that has not been completed.

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