2016 Board of Directors January 29, 2016

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Tracie K. Lindeman Clerk of the Supreme Court 201 S. Carson St. Carson City, NV 98701

PRACIE K. LINDEMAN CLERK OF SUPPLEME COURT BY CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

RE: ADKT 0499, Response to December 8, 2015, Public Hearing

Per your request, please accept this letter as a follow-up response from the Clark County Bar Association (CCBA) regarding the proposed amendments to Supreme Court Rule 207, and the related December 8, 2015 public hearing.

The CCBA is requesting that an exemption be created under the new sponsor-based funding model for non-profit organizations that collect attendance fees from attorneys attending their seminars. The requested exemption would waive, or substantially reduce, the proposed annual fee and the proposed per person credit fee, for organizations like the CCBA. This would allow the CCBA to continue providing substantial benefits to its members in the form of low cost CLEs, while also preserving its ability to continue to fund important community service events from the minimal revenue generated by the fees. The proposed changes, without some exemption for organizations like the CCBA, stand to greatly impact their budgets.

Per the December 8, 2015, request of the Supreme Court, the CCBA contacted the Washoe County Bar Association, Southern Nevada Association of Women's Attorneys (SNAWA), and Nevada Attorneys for Criminal Justice (NACJ). Attached are the responses received from Mary Chapman, Esq., and Treasurer to SNAWA and Lance Hendron, Esq. and President to NACJ. As of today, the CCBA has not received a written response from the Washoe County Bar Association; however, the Executive Director has verbally expressed to the CCBA they will encounter budgetary concerns if they are not exempted from the proposed sponsor-based funding model.

In summary, the CCBA respectfully requests the proposed annual fee, as well as the per person credit fee be waived or substantially reduced for non-profit accredited sponsors who charge for CLE seminars. The CCBA appreciates your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

CLARK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

JAN 2 9 2016mon K. Dias, Esq.

TRACIE K. LINDENIAS LAW Group, Ltd.
CLERK OF SUPREME APPRELIATE Past President

### **Donna Wiessner**

From:

maryf.chapman@juno.com

Sent:

Wednesday, January 13, 2016 3:10 PM

To:

Donna Wiessner

Cc:

kathleenpaustian@cox.net; Diane.Welch@csn.edu; rrshea@rrslawyer.com

Subject:

RE: Amendments to Supreme Court Role 207 (Board of CLE) - CCBA Needs I

nfo From

SNAWA

#### Donna:

SNAWA provides 4 free CLE credits per year to its members who attend the designated lunches (JAN, APR, JULY & OCT), non members are charged \$10.00 for the 1 credit received at the lunch. As treasurer of SNAWA I would object to all vendors being required to pay any type of fee as it would result in SNAWA not being able to provide this service to its members in the future. Losing this benefit would likely costs SNAWA significant membership which would then impact our ability to continue our sponsorship of scholarships to the law school.

Additionally, I would suggest you reach out to the Inns of Court, Judge Susan Johnson is the current Inn President. The Inn provides monthly CLE programs to its members and again they do not charge for the CLE credits, its part of the membership.

Both SNAWA and the Inns of Court are non profits. I think the study provided to the Supreme Court failed to take into account that many non profits provide CLE credits to their members at a substantial reduced cost or free of charge. Another example is Legal Services who regularly provided CLE training for free in exchange for a pro bono commitment from attorneys. The suggested changes in this regard would have a significant negative impact on Nevada legal based non profits if they were not exempt from the vendor fee structure proposed.

Mary F. Chapman, Esq. SNAWA Treasurer

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Law Office of Mary F. Chapman, Ltd. 7465 W. Lake Mead Blvd., Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV 89128 (702)562-1246

<sup>4</sup> Common Foods 'Destroying' Your Digestive Health ...

# NACJ

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### Nevada Attorneys for Criminal Justice

January 27, 2016

Tracie K. Lindeman Clerk of the Supreme Court 201 S. Carson St. Carson City, NV 98701

RE: <u>ADKT 0499, Response to Public Hearing held on</u> December 8, 2015

Nevada Attorneys for Criminal Justice (NACJ) is a non-profit, voluntary member organization composed of criminal defense attorneys throughout Nevada. Its mission is to ensure excellence in the representation of clients facing criminal charges in this state. NACJ typically meets once a month to discuss matters affecting criminal law and procedure and offers its members extensive resources relevant to their practice. Resources include a forum for discussion on questions affecting daily practice, the ability to moot cases, a quarterly publication, Unreasonable Doubt, featuring newsworthy articles affecting criminal practice, and approximately 6 hours of CLE credits to its members at no cost. NACJ does not receive any grants or any form of outside funding. The organization relies largely on membership dues to carry out its mission.

One of the benefits NACJ offers to attract membership is the ability to attend CLEs at no cost to its members. These CLEs are typically presented by volunteer attorneys with a commitment to NACJ or by partnering with other organizations who will invite NACJ to attend their CLEs at no cost. The proposed changes to the CLE Board's funding would drastically impact the existence of this organization. Annual sponsor accreditation fees, as well as per person credit fees, would create an insurmountable cost to NACJ as it has no means to offset this cost. Unlike other organizations, NACJ offers CLEs at no cost to its members. In this same vein, NACJ operates under an incredibly restrained budget and would not be able to absorb these proposed costs.

We are respectfully requesting that an exemption be created for organizations such as NACJ that would waive the proposed annual fee and per person credit fees. This would allow NACJ to continue providing its members the services it currently provides, which impacts the level of practice of criminal law in Nevada. NACJ appreciates your consideration of this request.

Lance Hendron

Sincerely.

**NACJ President**