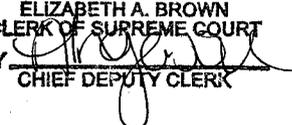


January 26, 2018

Elizabeth A. Brown
Clerk of the Supreme Court
201 South Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

FILED

JAN 29 2018

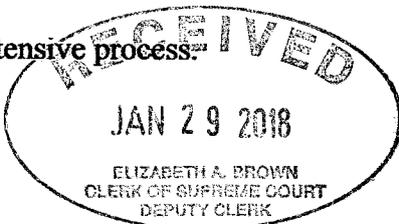
ELIZABETH A. BROWN
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY 
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

Re: ADKT 0531 and Proposed Change to Supreme Court Rule 49

Dear Ms. Brown,

I am writing in support of the proposed change to Supreme Court Rule 49 which would set forth a temporary certification to practice law for attorney spouses of active duty military personnel. If adopted, this rule will have a profound and meaningful impact on the lives of military families. As an attorney spouse of an active duty service member serving in Nevada, I want to express my gratitude to both the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Nevada for proposing the rule and this Court for taking this proposed change under consideration.

Being an attorney who is the spouse of an active duty military member involves a wide variety of unique challenges that I have personally grappled with. I am extremely proud of being both a military spouse and an attorney, but dread the news of an upcoming permanent change of station and what it may mean for my professional prospects. For many military spouse attorneys, upon receiving news of a move, the first thought is whether or not that state has a military spouse rule. Without such rules in place, many military spouse attorneys find themselves either unemployed while studying for the bar exam and waiting for their results, or underemployed as they are forced to take a position that does not require an active law license. Due to the nature of the military and its numerous mandatory relocations, it is not unusual for a military spouse to have taken the bar exam in multiple states, which as you are aware is both an expensive and time intensive process.



The implementation of this rule may not have a large numerical impact, but it will have an enormous impact on military spouse attorneys and their families. Personally, the adoption of this rule would be life changing. Upon moving to Nevada this past July, I was fortunate enough to find a position using my law degree. However, a condition of my employment is that I become barred in Nevada within a year or lose my position. As such, I am studying for Nevada's February Bar Exam, which will be held in just a few short weeks on February 27th, 28th, and March 1st, while also nine months pregnant. This will be my third bar exam in six years, after having passed it in both South Dakota and Texas. I share my story to highlight the challenges that many military spouse attorneys have faced in the past and will continue to face in the future without this rule.

The adoption of this rule would allow military spouse attorneys to move to Nevada knowing that both the sacrifice of their service member spouse and their sacrifice as a military spouse is recognized. I thank you for your consideration of this letter and respectfully urge you to consider adoption of the proposed change to Supreme Court Rule 49.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lauren Kaufman', written in a cursive style.

Lauren Kaufman*

*Licensed in Texas (#24094769) and South Dakota (#4379) only