

Faulk, Camilla

From: J.J Thompson [jthompson@laymanlawfirm.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2009 9:32 AM
To: Faulk, Camilla
Subject: Comment to Proposed APR 28, Legal Technicians

I am opposed to the adoption of proposed APR 28 with respect to licensing Legal Technicians in the practice area of family law. The purpose of the rule is admirable; however, the scope of the actual duties required of Legal Technicians invites significant risks of malpractice and overall dissatisfaction to clients during the most vulnerable times of prospective clients' lives. It appears the only "real" difference between a licensed attorney whose sole practice is family law and a Legal Technician, licensed under proposed APR 28, is the ability of the licensed attorney to appear in court on behalf of a client. Effectively, proposed APR 28 simply lowers the standards required to practice in the area of family law. In light of the vast number of licensed young lawyers currently not employed in the legal profession because of the lack of employment opportunities, there does not appear to be a need for lowering the standards to practice law. Rather, the need exists in connecting licensed lawyers with consumers in an affordable manner. Thus, the objectives of APR 28 are more likely to be efficiently realized through utilizing licensed young lawyers and increasing the support and awareness for programs such as the Greater Access and Assistance Program (GAAP). For the foregoing reasons, I recommend proposed APR 28 not be adopted.

This statement is my personal opinion, and it is not intended to reflect the opinions that may be held by my employer or coworkers.

Sincerely,

J.J. THOMPSON

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