

# SOUTH CAROLINA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION



Post Office Box 11910  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

April 11, 2019

Clerk of the Supreme Court  
P.O. Box 40929  
Olympia, WA 98504-0929

By US Mail and email to [supreme@courts.wa.gov](mailto:supreme@courts.wa.gov)

Re: Proposed Changes to APR 3  
Military Spouse Attorneys

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is on behalf of the Military Subcommittee of the South Carolina Women Lawyers Association (SCWLA) to provide information to the Supreme Court as it considers a proposed revision to APR 3 regarding applicants for admission to practice law.

In March 2016, SCWLA supported a similar rule change in South Carolina. The Supreme Court of South Carolina adopted Rule 430, Limited Certificate of Admission for Military Spouse Attorneys, effective May 16, 2016, and amended effective March 29, 2017. Melissa Rose, currently a member of the SCWLA Military Subcommittee, is one of the attorneys admitted under this rule.

While considering its support of the rule change in South Carolina, the SCWLA Military Committee was made aware of difficulties attorney spouses of military members face as a result of military service, including multiple moves from state to state over a relatively short time. Unlike most citizens, military members do not have the same freedom of choice of places to live that others have. We believe that the South Carolina rule allowing qualified military spouses the opportunity to practice law in South Carolina when a military member is relocated to South Carolina, under a set of reasonable rules to protect the public, without adding unnecessary requirements, is strengthening our state's military families, the military itself, and our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen G. Smith  
Chair  
Military Subcommittee

c: Amie Clifford, President, SCWLA

**Tracy, Mary**

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**From:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:38 AM  
**To:** Tracy, Mary  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Changes to APR 3/Military Spouse Attorneys  
**Attachments:** DM 5786012-v1 Smith letter to Clerk of Supreme Court re Military Spouse Attorneys.PDF

**From:** Smith, Kathy [mailto:ksmith@hsblawfirm.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:13 AM  
**To:** OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>  
**Subject:** Proposed Changes to APR 3/Military Spouse Attorneys

Clerk of the Supreme Court,

Attached is a comment letter in connection with proposed changes to APR 3 regarding military spouse attorneys.

Thank you.

Kathleen G. Smith

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## **HAYNSWORTH SINKLER BOYD**

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