FILED SUPREME COURT STATE OF WASHINGTON JUNE 5, 2025 BY SARAH R. PENDLETON CLERK

THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

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IN THE MATTER OF THE SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO APR 5— PREADMISSION REQUIREMENTS; OATH; RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMISSION; ORDER ADMITTING TO PRACTICE LAW

ORDER

NO. 25700-A-1643

The Supreme Court Rules Committee, having recommended the adoption of the suggested amendments to APR 5—Preadmission requirements; Oath; Recommendation for Admission; Order Admitting to Practice Law, and the Court having considered the suggested amendments, and having determined that the suggested amendments will aid in the prompt and orderly administration of justice;

Now, therefore, it is hereby

ORDERED:

(a) That the suggested amendments as attached hereto are adopted.

(b) That pursuant to the emergency provisions of GR 9(j)(1), the suggested amendments will be published in the Washington Reports and will become effective upon publication.

Page 2 ORDER IN THE MATTER OF THE SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO APR 5- PREADMISSION REQUIREMENTS; OATH; RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMISSION; ORDER ADMITTING TO PRACTICE LAW

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 5th day of June, 2025.

mon Johnson, J.

Madsen, J.

González, J.

Gordon McCloud, J.

CHIEF JUSTICE

Montoya-Lewis, J,

Whitener, J.

Mung J.

GR 9 COVER SHEET FOR

SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO APR 5

- 1. Proponent: Supreme Court Rules Committee
- 2. Spokesperson: Justice Mary Yu, Rules Committee Chair
- 3. **Purpose**: The purpose is to provide explicit authorization in APR 5 for the Oath of Attorney, Limited Practice Officer, and Limited License Legal Technician to be taken remotely by telephone or videoconference. The suggested amendments were drafted in consultation with WSBA's Chief Regulatory Counsel and Director of Regulatory Services.
- 4. Is a Public Hearing Recommended? No
- 5. Is Expedited Consideration Requested? Yes

APR 5 PREADMISSION REQUIREMENTS; OATH; RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMISSION; ORDER ADMITTING TO PRACTICE LAW

(a)-(e) [Unchanged.]

(f) Oath of Attorney, <u>Limited Practice Officer, and Limited License Legal Technician</u>. The Oath of Attorney, <u>Limited Practice Officer</u>, and <u>Limited License Legal Technician</u> must be taken <u>in person</u>, by telephone, or by videoconference before an elected or appointed judge, excluding judges pro tempore, sitting in open court in the state of Washington. <u>An oath</u> <u>administered remotely is deemed administered in the courthouse where the judge sits regardless</u> <u>of where the judge or applicant are located</u>.

In the event a successful applicant is outside the state of Washington and the Chief Justice is satisfied that it is impossible or impractical for the applicant to take the oath before an elected or appointed judge in this state, the Chief Justice may, upon proper application setting forth all the circumstances, designate a person authorized by law to administer oaths, before whom the applicant may appear and take said oath.

(g)-(h) [Unchanged.]

(i) Oath for Limited Practice Officer and of Limited License Legal Technician. The Oath for Limited Practice Officer and the Oath of Limited License Legal Technician shall be taken before an elected or appointed judge, excluding judges pro tempore, sitting in open court in the state of Washington.

(j)-(m) [Unchanged except to renumber these subsections as (i)-(l) in light of the deletion of former subsection (i) above.]