FILED
SUPREME COURT STATE OF
WASHINGTON
JULY 7, 2026
BY SARAH R. PENDLETON
CLERK

THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO APR 12— LIMITED PRACTICE RULE FOR LIMITED PRACTICE OFFICERS	)	**O R D E R**
	)	NO. 25700-A-1702

The Washington State Bar Association, having recommended the suggested amendments to APR 12— Limited Practice Rule for Limited Practice Officers, and the Court having approved the suggested amendments for publication;

Now, therefore, it is hereby

ORDERED:

(a) That pursuant to the provisions of GR 9(g), the suggested amendments as attached hereto are to be published for comment in the Washington Reports, Washington Register, Washington State Bar Association and Administrative Office of the Court's websites in January 2027.

(b) The purpose statement as required by GR 9(e) is published solely for the information of the Bench, Bar, and other interested parties.

(c) Comments are to be submitted to the Clerk of the Supreme Court by either U.S. Mail or Internet E-Mail by no later than April 30, 2027. Comments may be sent to the following addresses: P.O. Box 40929, Olympia, Washington 98504-0929, or supreme@courts.wa.gov. Comments submitted by e-mail message must be limited to 1500 words.

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 7th day of July, 2026.

For the Court

Stegmann, C. J.
CHIEF JUSTICE

GR 9 COVER SHEET

Suggested Amendments
APR 12(b)(3)
Limited Practice Rule for Limited Practice Officers

Submitted by the Washington State Bar Association

A. Name of Proponent:

Washington State Bar Association

B. Spokesperson:

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C. Purpose:

As part of its commitment to self-regulation of the legal profession, the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) often relies on volunteer members of the legal community to perform essential functions for regulating Bar members. For the most part, these individuals graciously devote their time to the WSBA's activities without compensation. In certain instances, however, the WSBA recognizes that activities go beyond what might typically be expected of a volunteer and provides some compensation for the activities. The Board of Bar Examiners (BOBE) is one such instance. BOBE members receive compensation for their time grading the written portion of the bar exam and for reviewing and updating the Washington Law Component Test.

The Limited Practice (LP) Board performs similar functions to the BOBE, including grading LP exams and drafting exam questions, without compensation because APR 12(b)(3) presently prohibits the WSBA from providing compensation to members of the LP Board beyond reimbursement for reasonable expenses. The WSBA has determined that it would be beneficial to compensate LP Board members commensurate with the compensation currently provided to the BOBE. Providing payment to both boards would recognize the equal functions the board performs, create consistency in the WSBA's compensation practices, and would make it more feasible for volunteers to devote their time to essential Bar functions. The WSBA, therefore, suggests amendments to APR 12(b)(3) to permit the Bar to provide compensation to members of the LP Board for their grading and exam development activities.

D. **Hearing:** A hearing is not requested.

E. **Expedited Consideration:** Expedited consideration is not requested.

F. **Supporting Material:** None

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT(S) TO APR 12(b)(3)
LIMITED PRACTICE RULE FOR LIMITED PRACTICE OFFICERS

APR 12

LIMITED PRACTICE RULE FOR LIMITED PRACTICE OFFICERS

(a) [unchanged]

(b) Limited Practice Board.

(1) – (2) [unchanged]

(3) *Compensation and Expenses of the Board.* Members of the LP Board ~~shall not be compensated for their services.~~ may be provided compensation at a level established by the Bar and ~~For their actual reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, they~~ shall be reimbursed according to the Bar's expense policies for their actual reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

[Remainder unchanged.]

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