

District of Columbia Court of Appeals

No. M-217-03

BEFORE: Wagner, Chief Judge; Terry, Steadman, Schwelb, Farrell, Ruiz, Reid, Glickman, and Washington, Associate Judges.

ORDER

(FILED - SEPTEMBER 18, 2003)

WHEREAS the court has determined that it is appropriate to require attorneys receiving appointments by this court under the Criminal Justice Act (CJA) to complete relevant continuing legal education (CLE) courses; and

WHEREAS the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, has instituted a CLE requirement for attorneys appointed by that court pursuant to the CJA, see Superior Court Administrative Order No. 02-33, appended hereto; it is

ORDERED THAT the following requirements and procedures are made applicable to attorneys eligible for appointment under the CJA:

1. Beginning in 2004, each attorney eligible for appointment by this court under the CJA shall complete eight hours of mandatory CLE each calendar year; credits may not be carried over from one calendar year to another.
2. To accrue an hour of CLE credit, a class must be at least fifty minutes in duration; classes of only half an hour in duration do not count toward the CLE requirement.
3. To satisfy the CLE requirement established by this order, the course or program must focus on training that is relevant to criminal or juvenile delinquency appeals and must be of a reasonable caliber and seriousness rather than simply a complaint or dialogue session.
 - a. The court will consider the following subject areas as appropriate for satisfying the CLE requirement: appellate advocacy, brief writing, appellate procedure, and the subjects listed in Paragraph III.A of Superior Court Administrative Order No. 02-33. Other subject areas may also qualify.

b. Courses or programs in the foregoing subjects that are offered by law schools, the D.C. Bar or other bar associations for CLE credit, or by the institutions listed in Paragraph II.B of Superior Court Administrative Order No. 02-33, will presumptively qualify under this order.

4. By January 15 of each year, beginning in 2005, each attorney who is eligible for CJA appointment shall report to this court in writing the steps he or she has taken to satisfy the CLE requirement. The report shall include the date of the course, its title, the course sponsor, the number of hours over which the course was conducted, and the attorney's certification by his or her signature that the attorney has attended the course and that the information in the report is true and accurate.

PER CURIAM