Delaware Supreme Court Adopts Rule for Reinstatement from Administrative Suspension.

By an order dated October 8, 2025, the Delaware Supreme Court adopted a new, more streamlined process for reinstatement from administrative suspension resulting from CLE noncompliance or failure to complete the annual registration process on time. To implement this new process, the Court adopted a new rule, Rule 22.1 of the Delaware Lawyers' Rules of Disciplinary Procedure (the "Disciplinary Procedure Rules"), and made related changes to Supreme Court Rule 69(j), Disciplinary Procedure Rule 22(a), and Rule 5(D) of the Rules for Continuing Legal Education ("CLE Rules").

Before these amendments, Supreme Court Rule 69(j) and CLE Rule 5(D) required administratively suspended attorneys to petition for reinstatement under Disciplinary Procedure Rule 22. Disciplinary Procedure Rule 22 requires a lawyer seeking reinstatement to prove rehabilitation and fitness to practice, among other facts, at a hearing before the Board on Professional Responsibility, followed by review by the Court. Under new Disciplinary Procedure Rule 22.1, an attorney seeking reinstatement from administrative suspension must submit a petition demonstrating "good reasons" for reinstatement to the Court and the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. The Office of Disciplinary Counsel will make a recommendation to the Court on how the petition should be addressed, and the petitioner may file a reply. The Court will then consider the submissions and grant the petition for reinstatement, deny the petition, or direct further proceedings as appropriate.

The rule amendments are available on the <u>Court's website</u>. If you have any questions, please contact Karlis Johnson, Supreme Court Administrator, at karlis.johnson@delaware.gov.