

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT**

NOTICE REGARDING LOCAL RULES

Proposed revisions to the following Local Rule have been posted on the USDC website:

Local Civil Rule 83.2 – Discipline of Attorneys

The Rules can be reviewed in their entirety at: www.ctd.uscourts.gov

Comments are welcomed by the Court and should be directed to:

Dinah Milton Kinney, Clerk
141 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

or sent by email to:

commentstotheclerkofcourt@ctd.uscourts.gov

To be considered, comments must be received by December 4, 2025.

RULE 83.2

DISCIPLINE OF ATTORNEYS

(Amended ~~January 30~~ _____, 202~~4~~5)

(a) Professional Ethics

1. Except as provided in Rule 83.2(a)2 of these Local Rules, this Court recognizes the authority of the “Rules of Professional Conduct,” as approved by the Judges of the Connecticut Superior Court as expressing the standards of professional conduct expected of lawyers practicing in the District of Connecticut. Any changes made by the Judges of the Connecticut Superior Court to the Rules of Professional Conduct shall apply in the District of Connecticut, on the date they become effective in the Connecticut Superior Court unless such changes are expressly rejected by order of the District Judges. The Clerk shall report to the Judges any such changes to the Connecticut Rules of Professional Conduct. The interpretation of said Rules of Professional Conduct by any authority other than the United States Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut shall not be binding in disciplinary proceedings initiated in the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut.

2. This Court does not adopt the provisions of Rules of Professional Conduct 1.2 and 1.5 concerning limited representations and limited appearances. The ethical standards governing public statements by counsel in a criminal case are set forth in Local Criminal Rule 57. The ethical standards governing participation as counsel in a case where either the attorney or another attorney in his or her firm may be a witness for both civil and criminal cases are set forth in Local Civil Rule 83.13.

3. The following Local Civil Rules shall apply in grievance proceedings: Rule 83.1 (Admission of Attorneys), Rule 1 (~~Definitions~~Scope of Rules), Rule 10 (Preparation of Pleadings), Rule 5(b) (Appearance), Rule 5(c) (Proof of Service), Rule 5(~~hg~~) (Service in Manually Filed Cases), Rule 7(a) (Motion ~~Practice~~ Procedures), Rule 7(b) (Motions for Extensions of Time.), and Rule 83.10 (Civil Pro Bono Panel).

(b) Grievance Committee

1. The Judges of this Court shall appoint a Grievance Committee of the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut consisting of twelve (12) members of the bar of this Court. One member shall be appointed by the judges as the chairperson of the committee for a term of three years.

2. Members shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years, renewable once, for an additional term of three (3) years. If a member is appointed chairperson during the second term of three years, that member may serve the full three-year term of chairperson, even if his or her total tenure on the committee would thereby exceed six years. In the event that a vacancy arises before the end of a term, a member of the bar of this Court shall be appointed by the

Judges of this Court to fill the vacancy for the balance of the term. Anyone filling such a vacancy is eligible for reappointment to a full three-year term. Five (5) members of the Grievance Committee shall constitute a quorum and any action taken by the Grievance Committee shall be by a majority vote of those members present and voting.

3. The judges shall appoint three (3) members of the bar of this Court to serve as Counsel to the Grievance Committee. Assignment of cases to each counsel shall be made on the basis of the assigned seat of court, according to administrative procedures approved by the Clerk.

4. The Grievance Committee and Counsel to the Grievance Committee shall have the use of the staff of the Clerk, grievance clerks, for clerical and record-keeping assistance, shall have the power to issue subpoenas to compel witnesses to testify and produce documents at proceedings, and may incur such expenses as shall be approved by the Chief Judge of this Court. Compulsory process shall be available to the attorney who is the subject of the complaint.

(c) General Procedures

1. Grievance cases are opened upon a) the filing of a verified complaint against an attorney alleging misconduct relating to any matter relevant to an attorney's qualifications to practice before the court; b) judicial referral to the Grievance Committee upon an allegation of possible misconduct relating to any matter relevant to an attorney's qualification to practice before the court; c) notice of a guilty plea or conviction of a serious crime; d) notice of discipline or resignation in other courts; or e) notice of a finding of mental disability or incapacity.

2. The Clerk shall assign a docket number to the grievance cases consisting of the initials "GP," the last two digits of the year of filing, the number of the case (with the first case of each year being designated as number 1), and the initials of the Judge to whom the case has been assigned.

3. Each grievance case shall be assigned to a Judge on a random District-wide basis. Any complaint which arises out of conduct witnessed by a particular Judge of this Court shall not be assigned to that Judge. The personnel of the clerk's office shall not reveal to any person other than a Judge or the Clerk of this Court the order of assignment of such cases.

4. Grievance cases shall be considered sealed and shall not be a record open to the public unless and until public discipline is ordered. Sealed documents filed in CM/ECF are not accessible or viewable by electronic means. The Clerk's Office will provide copies of sealed documents to aAssigned counsel for the Grievance Committee. Grievance Committee counsel are ~~will be allowed electronic access to the sealed case and be~~ permitted to efile documents. Other members of the Grievance Committee may request from the Clerk's Office copies of documents filed in sealed grievance cases, which the Clerk will provide, ~~will be allowed electronic access to sealed grievance cases,~~ but are not permitted to efile documents. Counsel for the attorney who is the subject of the grievance or such attorney, if he or she is proceeding as a self-represented party, may request from the Clerk's Office copies of sealed documents, which the Clerk will provide, ~~will be allowed electronic access to the sealed case and~~ will be

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