

STATE BAR RULES OF MICHIGAN

Rule 15 Admission to the Bar

Section 3. Procedure for Admission; Oath of Office. (1) Each applicant to whom a certificate of qualification has been issued by the board of law examiners is required to appear personally and present such certificate to the Supreme Court or one of the circuit courts of this state. Upon motion made in open court by an active member of the State Bar of Michigan, the court may enter an order admitting such applicant to the bar of this state. The clerk of such court is required to forthwith administer to such applicant in open court the following oath of office:

I do solemnly swear (or affirm):

I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Michigan;

I will maintain the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers;

I will not counsel or maintain any suit or proceeding which shall appear to me to be unjust, nor any defense except such as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law of the land;

I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me such means only as are consistent with truth and honor, and will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by any artifice or false statement of fact or law;

I will maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets of my client, and will accept no compensation in connection with my client's business except with my client's knowledge and approval;

I will abstain from all offensive personality, and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness, unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged;

I will never reject, from any consideration personal to myself, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed, or delay any cause for lucre or malice;

I will in all other respects conduct myself personally and professionally in conformity with the high standards of conduct imposed on members of the bar as conditions for the privilege to practice law in this state.

(2) The applicant is required to subscribe to such oath of office by signing a copy and to register membership in the State Bar of Michigan in the manner prescribed in Rule 2 of these rules and to pay the required dues before practicing law in this state. The clerk shall record such admission, in the journal of such court, and shall preserve such oath of office in the records of the court. A roll of all persons admitted to the bar shall be kept in the office of the clerk of the Supreme Court.

(3) Admission to the bar of this state is an authorization to practice as an attorney and counselor in every court in this state.