

# COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINARY RULES AND REFERENDA

## Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct

### Rule 6.05. Conflict of Interest Exceptions for Nonprofit and Limited Pro Bono Legal Services

Below is the timeline for proposed Rule 6.05 of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct, relating to conflict of interest exceptions for nonprofit and limited pro bono legal services.

**INITIATED – February 6, 2019**

**PUBLICATION** – A proposed rule is withdrawn if it is not published in (1) the Texas Register and (2) the Texas Bar Journal within six months of initiation of the rule proposal process.

- **Texas Bar Journal – April 1, 2019 (Complete)**
- **Texas Register – March 29, 2019 (Complete)**

*NOTE: Publications will include details on dates and participation methods for the comment period and the public hearing(s).*

**COMMENT PERIOD** – The Committee shall give interested parties at least 30 days from the date a proposed rule is published to submit comments on the rule to the Committee. The Committee has extended the comment period to three months.

Public comments will be accepted through **July 1, 2019**.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** – The Committee held public hearings on **April 18, 2019, and June 6, 2019**, at the Texas Law Center.

**FINAL VOTE BY COMMITTEE** – The Committee shall vote on whether to recommend a proposed rule to the Board of Directors not later than the 60th day after the final day of the comment period. This vote must be held at a meeting open to the public and with notice to the public.

The Committee voted at its **July 23, 2019**, meeting to recommend the proposed rule to the Board of Directors.

**SUBMISSION TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS** – The Committee shall submit a proposed disciplinary rule that is recommended by the Committee to the Board of Directors for review and consideration.

The Committee submitted the proposed rule to the Chair of the Board of Directors on **October 16, 2019**.

**VOTE BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS** – The Board of Directors shall vote on each proposed disciplinary rule recommended by the Committee not later than the 120th day after the date the rule is received from the Committee. The Board shall vote for or against the rule or return the rule to the Committee for additional consideration.

At its **January 16, 2020**, meeting, the Board of Directors voted to approve proposed Rule 6.05. At a future date, the Board will petition the Supreme Court of Texas to order a vote by Bar membership on the proposed rule (as well as on other rule proposals approved by the Board).

**VOTE BY BAR MEMBERSHIP** – On September 25, 2020, the Board of Directors approved the submission of a petition to the Supreme Court of Texas for a rules vote by Bar membership. On September 29, 2020, the Supreme Court ordered a membership vote to take place from **February 2 to March 4, 2021**, on this and other rule proposals. For more information, go to [texasbar.com/rulesvote](https://texasbar.com/rulesvote).