



## Commission on Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE)

State of Connecticut Judicial Branch

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COMMISSION:  
Michael P. Bowler, Esq.

**December 21, 2016**

### **Opinion 3**


#### **Whether Serving as a Judge for an Undergraduate Mock Trial Competition Qualifies as Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE)**

The Commission on Minimum Continuing Legal Education (Commission) received a request from an attorney who assists a local university's undergraduate mock trial team in its preparation for an upcoming competition. The attorney, who is an adjunct professor at the university, asks whether attorneys who serve as judges for the mock trial competition would qualify for MCLE credit. The opinion of the Commission is that judging an undergraduate mock trial competition does not qualify for MCLE credit.

To receive credit for complying with Practice Book §2-27A, attorneys must satisfy the delivery and content requirements of the rule. The Commission concludes that serving as a judge for a mock trial competition does not satisfy the delivery requirement of the rule. See Practice Book §2-27A(b). The delivery requirement allows in-person attendance at "legal education courses" offered by certain providers (§2-27A(b)(1)); self-study of "appropriate programs or courses . . . prepared by those continuing legal education providers in subsection (b)(1)" (§2-27A(b)(2)); by publishing legal articles (§2-27A(b)(3)); and by serving as a full-time, part-time, or adjunct faculty member at a law school accredited by the American Bar

Association (§2-27A(b)(4)-(6)). Serving as a judge for an undergraduate mock trial competition does not satisfy any of the delivery means listed in §2-27A(b)(2).

Accordingly, because serving as a judge for an undergraduate mock trial completion does not qualify as MCLE, no amount of time to complete that activity can be counted towards MCLE compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael P. Bowler", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael P. Bowler  
Counsel to the Commission