

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS LOCAL RULE 83.1
ADMISSION TO PRACTICE

LR83.1. Admission to Practice.

A. ***Eligibility.*** A lawyer applying for admission to the bar of this court must be licensed to practice law by the licensing authority of one of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, or a Territory of the United States. If licensed by a licensing authority other than the State of Texas, then an attorney must also be a member in good standing of a United States District Court. Attorneys employed by the Department of Justice, or the Federal Public Defender are exempt from the requirement of good standing in another United States District Court. (Amended by General Order 2018-6, effective March 22, 2018).

~~B. ***Division.*** Lawyers who reside in the district must apply in the division where the lawyer resides. Applicants who do not reside in the district may apply for admission in any division. (Note: The application is not division specific.)~~

~~B.~~ ***Application.*** The lawyer shall file an application on a form prescribed by the Court.

~~D.~~ ***Committee on Admissions.*** The district shall have one committee on admissions comprised of seven attorney members chosen by the Chief Judge and who shall serve staggered three-year terms. The participation of four members, either in person or by electronic means, shall constitute a quorum.

~~D.~~ ***Action on the Application.*** After a review of the application, the Court will admit or deny admission. A person not admitted may request a hearing to show why the application should be granted. The hearing will be conducted under the procedures for disciplinary matters.

~~E.~~ ***Uncompensated Assignments.*** The pro bono representation of indigent clients is encouraged by this Court. It is hoped that as a matter of public service a member of the Bar of the Southern District of Texas will accept an uncompensated assignment to an indigent's civil matter as often as every twelve months.

~~G. ***Workshop.*** An approved applicant must attend a workshop held by the Court before being admitted, unless the applicant either is over seventy years old or resides out of the district and is a member of the bar of another United States District Court. Former Circuit, District, Bankruptcy and Magistrate Judges are exempt from attending the workshop.~~

~~(1) On approval of an application, the clerk will notify the applicant, giving the locations and dates of the next workshop.~~

~~(2) Applicants who reside in the Houston or Galveston Divisions must attend the workshop in Houston.~~

~~(3) Applicants for admission in the Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Laredo, McAllen and Victoria Divisions may attend a workshop in any division.~~

~~**HF. Expiration.** Members of the bar must ~~reapply~~ renew their membership every five years from the date of admission by filing a ~~new application~~ renewal application and paying the fee. If a member fails to ~~reapply~~ renew before the expiration of the term, ~~a later application will be treated as an original application, requiring reapproval and attendance at a workshop~~, the attorney may file a request for renewal after expiration. If an attorney's membership has been expired for 10 years, the attorney will need to submit a new application to be readmitted to the Southern District of Texas.~~

~~**IG Oath.** On admission, the lawyer will take this oath before any judicial officer of the United States, ~~clerk of court or deputy clerk.~~~~

I do solemnly swear [affirm] that I will discharge the duties of attorney and counselor of this court faithfully, that I will demean myself uprightly under the law and the highest ethics of our profession, and that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

~~**JH. Fee.** The applicant will pay the fee set by order. ~~Should an applicant scheduled to take the oath unreasonably fail to notify the clerk that he will not appear as scheduled, the applicant forfeits the fee.~~~~

~~**KI Practice Without Admission.** A lawyer who is not admitted to practice before this Court may appear ~~as attorney in charge~~ for a party in a case in this Court with the permission of the judge before whom the case is pending ~~by filing a Motion to Appear Pro Hac Vice on the prescribed form. A Motion to Appear Pro Hac Vice filing fee may be set by the Court. When a lawyer who is not a member of the bar of this Court first appears in a case, the lawyer shall move for leave to appear as attorney in charge for the client.~~~~

~~**LJ. Conduct of Attorneys.** The Rules of Discipline in Appendix A govern membership in the bar of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.~~