



## Become an Emeritus Pro Bono Attorney through VLN

VLN's attorneys are among the best in the state, and that includes many seasoned attorneys starting to consider retirement. If you are in that position, please consider staying with VLN with your valuable legal skills and experience. You are among the few who, with a J.D. after your name, can invoke the power of the courts to protect those living in poverty.

**With emeritus status, you may continue to provide pro bono services to VLN clients without having to pay the annual registration fee necessary for an active license to practice law.**

To qualify for emeritus status, follow these steps:

1. Be on *voluntary* restricted status.<sup>1</sup>
2. File a Retirement Affidavit with the Lawyer Registration Office (see reverse).<sup>2</sup>
3. Determine the area of law in which you would like to provide pro bono representation.
4. Within the 90-days prior to completing the below *Affidavit of Emeritus Status*, complete at least three CLE credits in that area of law,<sup>3</sup> as well as one CLE credit in ethics and one CLE credit in elimination of bias. If you wish to continue to volunteer at a brief advice clinic, you must also receive the necessary training to provide that service. (Please see [vlnmn.org/events](http://vlnmn.org/events) for upcoming CLEs, as well as our library of free on-demand CLEs.)
5. Complete and submit the *Affidavit of Emeritus Status* to the CLE Board.

### Additional Information:

- Emeritus status last for three years. Attorneys may renew their emeritus status prior to the expiration of their three-year status using the same *Affidavit of Emeritus Status*.
- Attorneys granted emeritus status will be posted publically on the CLE Board's website

Visit the [Supreme Court website](#) to read the court's order and the amendments to the Rules.

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<sup>1</sup> **Restricted status** means the status of a lawyer licensed in Minnesota who has voluntarily chosen not to comply with the educational and reporting requirements of these Rules. **Involuntary restricted status** means the status of a lawyer licensed in Minnesota who is not in compliance with the educational and reporting requirements of these Rules and who has been involuntarily placed in that status by order of the Court. (See Rules of the Board of Continuing Education Rule 12 for additional provisions.)

<sup>2</sup> Rules on Lawyer Registration, Rule 2(C)(5) **Inactive Status – Retired**. A lawyer or judge who files with the Lawyer Registration Office a Retirement Affidavit stating that the lawyer or judge (i) is currently on active or inactive status, (ii) does not hold judicial office in this state, (iii) is not engaged in the practice of law in this state, (iv) is at least 62 years of age, and (v) is retired from any gainful employment is exempt from payment of any registration fee during the period of the lawyer's or judge's retirement. A Retirement Affidavit, once filed, is effective for each succeeding year unless the lawyer or judge transfers to active status pursuant to section C7 of this rule. Notwithstanding the above, a lawyer or judge who has filed an affidavit in accordance with this rule may engage in the pro bono legal representation of pro bono clients pursuant to Rule 14 of the Rules of the Minnesota State Board of Continuing Legal Education.

<sup>3</sup> If more than one area of law, you need to complete at least three CLE hours in each area of law.

## Affidavit of Retired Status

State of Minnesota,

County of \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, swear or affirm that:

- I am currently on active or inactive status (i.e., in good standing)
- I do not hold judicial office in this state
- I am not engaged in the practice of law
- I am at least 62 years of age, and
- I am retired from any gainful employment

Lawyer ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed affidavit to:

Minnesota Supreme Court  
Lawyer Registration Office  
180 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite 950  
St. Paul, MN 55101

***Note: This affidavit cannot be altered in any way.***