

Rule 8. QUALIFICATION OF COUNSEL

(a) **All Counsel.** Counsel in any case before the Court shall be a member in good standing of the bar of a Federal Court, the highest court of a State or another recognized bar.

(b) **Military Counsel.** Assigned appellate defense and appellate government counsel shall, in addition, be qualified in accordance with Articles 27(b)(1) and 70(a), Uniform Code of Military Justice.

(c) **Admission.** Each Court may license counsel to appear before it. Otherwise, upon entering an appearance, counsel shall be deemed admitted *pro hac vice*, subject to filing a certificate setting forth required qualifications if directed by the Court.

(d) **Suspension.** No counsel may appear in any proceeding before the Court while suspended from practice by the Judge Advocate General of the service concerned.

Rule 8.1. *Qualification of Counsel.* No person, other than an appellant upon leave of the Court, shall practice before this Court unless admitted to the Bar of this Court or appearing *pro hac vice* or as *amicus curiae* by leave of the Court.

Rule 8.2. *Admission to the Bar of the Court.*

(a) Each applicant shall file with the Clerk of Court an application for admission together with a certificate from the Clerk or other appropriate officer of a court specified in Rule 8(a) that the applicant is a member of the Bar in good standing. The certificate of good standing must be an original and must be dated within one year of the date of the application. Applications may be obtained from the Clerk of Court or downloaded from the Court's web site (<http://afcca.law.af.mil>). Upon leave of the Court, attorneys currently certified by a Judge Advocate General pursuant to Articles 26(b) or 27(b), UCMJ, may be admitted without application.

(b) If the documents submitted demonstrate that the applicant possesses the necessary qualifications, the Clerk shall so notify the applicant, who may be admitted without appearing in Court by subscribing a written oath or affirmation. Applicants may be admitted in open court on oral motion by a member of the Bar of this Court. After the attorney takes the oath, the Clerk shall issue a certificate of admission to the attorney.

(c) A person shall move for admission of an applicant by stating:

May it please the Court, I am (Name), a member in good standing of the bar of this Court. I move the admission of (name(s) of applicant(s)), a member of the bar of (the highest court of the State of _____), (the

United States District Court of _____). I have examined (his) (her) (their) credentials on file in the office of the Clerk, and I am satisfied that (he/she has) (they have) the qualifications for membership in the bar of this Court.

(d) Prior to admission, each applicant shall take the oath below. The Chief Judge, presiding Senior Judge, or the Chief Commissioner shall administer the oath to applicants seeking admission in open court. All others must subscribe the oath or affirmation.

I, (name of applicant), do solemnly (swear) (affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and that I will conduct myself as an attorney and counselor of this Court uprightly and according to law, (so help me, God).

Rule 8.3. *Honorary Membership.* Honorary membership in the Bar of the Court may be granted to distinguished members of the legal profession of other nations. No oath is required. Honorary membership does not entitle the member to practice before the Court.