

**SUPREME COURT OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR**

THERESE CORSONES, Esq.
State Court Administrator
Therese.Corsones@vermont.gov



www.vermontjudiciary.org

Mailing Address
Office of the Court Administrator
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609-0701

Telephone (802) 828-3278
FAX: 802 828-3457

TO: Members of the Vermont Bar

FROM: Teri Corsones, Esq., State Court Administrator

RE: Flood Legal Assistance – New Emergency Limited Emergency Pro Bono Law License (LEPL) for Inactive and Non-Resident Attorneys per new A.O. 54; and Amendment to A.O. 50 (Expansion of OCS Pilot Project to Washington County); and Amendment to A.O. 4 (Increasing Rate of Pay for Assigned Counsel)

DATE: August 7, 2023

For your information, please find:

- *Promulgation of Administrative Order No. 54*
- *Promulgation Order Amending Administrative Order No. 50*
- *Promulgation Order Amending Administrative Order 4; § 6(a)*

To ensure that you continue to receive emails from the judiciary, please add JUD.AttyLicensing@vermont.gov, JUD.CAOMemotoBar@vermont.gov and JUD.AutomatedCourtEmail@vermont.gov to your Safe Senders list. Thank you.

PROMULGATED RULE AMENDMENTS

- a. *Emergency Promulgation Administrative Order No. 54*
<https://www.vermontjudiciary.org/PROMULGATED--A.O.54--STAMPED>

This Order was promulgated on **August 7, 2023; effective August 9, 2023.**

The purpose of Vermont Supreme Court Emergency Order Promulgating Administrative Order No. 54 is to increase access to legal services to flood victims by relaxing the court rules that apply to the attorney licensing process in certain circumstances. In particular, the emergency order eases the process to obtain an active law license for two groups: (1) Vermont lawyers with inactive law licenses and (2) out-of-state lawyers. A “Limited Emergency Pro Bono Law License” authorizes a licensee to provide pro bono legal services solely for matters related to the Flood Emergency until such time that the Court directs.

Administrative Order 54 is linked here:
<https://www.vermontjudiciary.org/PROMULGATED--A.O.54--STAMPED>

Guidance regarding the application process and eligibility criteria are linked here:
<https://www.vermontjudiciary.org/Limited-Emergency-Pro-Bono-Law-License-LEPL-INSTRUCTIONS-GUIDANCE>

The application form is linked here:

<https://www.vermontjudiciary.org/Limited-Emergency-Pro-Bono-Law-License-REQUEST-FORM>

b. Promulgation Order Amending Administrative Order No. 50

<https://www.vermontjudiciary.org/PROMULGATED-A.O.50amendments--STAMPED>

This Order was promulgated on **August 7, 2023; effective August 7, 2023.**

Administrative Order 50, which authorizes a pilot project for service by the Office of Child Support in certain cases is amended to expand the project to Washington County.

c. Promulgation Order Amending Administrative Order No. 4; § 6(a)

<https://www.vermontjudiciary.org/PROMULGATED-A.O.4sec6--STAMPED>

This Order was promulgated on **July 13, 2023; effective July 1, 2023.**

Administrative Order 4, § 6(a) is amended to increase the hourly compensation for assigned counsel. Pursuant to 13 V.S.A. § 5205(a), the Supreme Court sets “reasonable rates of compensation” for assigned counsel. The compensation of \$50 per hour was established in 1993 and has not been increased. Both the Vermont Bar Association and the Office of the Defender General support an increase in compensation.