

Proposed new Rule 9.8

(4/23/2007)

Rule 9.8 Online registration by attorneys

(a) Centralized registration and reporting mechanism

The State Bar must facilitate member registration and reporting of information required in the State Bar Act, or as directed by the Supreme Court, by providing members with a centralized mechanism for registration and reporting information online at the State Bar's Web site.

(b) Online registration and reporting requirement

Each member of the State Bar must create an individual profile at the State Bar's Web site and use the profile to report and keep current information required by the State Bar Act, other statutes, case law, or rule.

(c) Deadlines for registration and reporting

Each member must use the online member profile to register with the State Bar and report required information.

- (1) Each member must use the profile to complete an initial registration on or before February 1, 2008.
- (2) An attorney who becomes a member after February 1, 2008 must create a profile and complete the initial registration within 90 days of admission.
- (3) Creating a profile obligates a member to use it to report any change in required information within the time limits prescribed by the relevant authority.

(d) Additional information required

- (1) When a member registers online, the member must provide an e-mail address to the State Bar. The e-mail address will be used exclusively for disciplinary or regulatory purposes unless the member indicates that it may be made available to the public. The member must report a change in the required e-mail address within 30 days.
- (2) A member must report whether the member, or the member's law firm, has established and maintained one or more trust fund accounts required under Business and Professions Code section 6211. The member must report any change in the information on or before February 1st of each year.

(e) Public or confidential nature of information

This rule makes no change to the public or confidential nature of information that a member must report to the State Bar.

(f) Exemption

A member who does not have online access may request exemption from using the online member profile. A member who has requested an exemption must provide the required information in a format and within the time limits prescribed by the State Bar.

(g) Non-compliance fee

The State Bar has the authority to set and collect an appropriate fee from any member who fails to comply with this rule and to add the fee to the member's annual membership fee for the year following the failure to register.