

## VIRGIN ISLANDS SUPREME COURT RULES VIRGIN ISLANDS BAR

The Supreme Court, being the highest court of the Virgin Islands, and pursuant to section 21(a) of the Revised Organic Act, as amended and 4 V.I.C. § 32(e), shall govern the admission of all attorneys to the Virgin Islands. Bar, (“V.I. Bar”) which shall consist of all attorneys, in whatever category, admitted to practice law in the Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands. The membership of the V.I. Bar shall consist of four (4) categories of attorneys, as follows:

*Pro Hac Vice Admissions.* Attorneys admitted *Pro Hac Vice* pursuant to the provisions of Rule 201.

*Special Admissions.* Government Attorneys specially admitted to practice pursuant to the provisions of Rule 202.

*Regular Admissions.* Attorneys regularly admitted to practice pursuant to the provisions of Rule 204.

*Prior Admissions.* Attorneys regularly admitted to practice pursuant to prior versions of Rule 204 are deemed member of the bar of the Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands.

### **Rule 201. Pro Hac Vice Admission.**

(a) An attorney not regularly or specially admitted to practice law in the Virgin Islands, and

(1) who is currently in good standing as an active member of the bar of any state or territory of the United States or of any foreign country;

(2) who has not suffered any disbarment or suspension of his or her license to practice in any jurisdiction;

(3) who has been retained or requested to represent any party in any legal matter in the Virgin Islands; and

(4) who has paid and continues to pay all appropriate membership dues to the Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands and the Virgin Islands Bar Association, and registers in accordance with Supreme Court Rule 203(e), may, in the discretion of the Supreme Court and on motion of a regularly admitted attorney of record in such litigation, be admitted *pro hac vice* to participate in that legal matter only. An attorney admitted *pro hac vice* shall be bound by the Virgin Islands Rules of Professional Conduct and shall be subject to the disciplinary and contempt jurisdiction of this Court in the course of his practice during his *pro hac vice* admission whether such disciplinary action is taken before or after termination or revocation of his admission *pro hac vice*. The regularly admitted attorney of record shall be accountable to the Supreme Court for the timely prosecution of such causes and compliance with all applicable rules. The regularly admitted attorney shall notify the Supreme Court no

later than fourteen (14) days from the date of final disposition of the litigation or withdrawal of the *pro hac vice* attorney.

(b) The motion for *pro hac vice* admission shall be accompanied by the *Pro Hac Vice* Questionnaire, supplied by the Clerk of the Court, which shall be completed by the applicant and served on counsel for all parties in the case with appropriate certificate(s) of service attached. Each application for *pro hac vice* admission shall be accompanied by a fee of \$350.00, of which \$100.00 shall be retained by the clerk as a filing fee and the remaining \$250.00 remitted to the Committee of Bar Examiners to defray its costs in administering this Rule. Applicants shall submit two checks or money orders, one for \$100.00 payable to the Clerk of the Supreme Court and the other \$250.00 payable to the Committee of Bar Examiners.

(c) All pleadings filed by an attorney admitted *pro hac vice* shall be signed by local counsel and failure to do so shall result in the pleading being rejected. – Adopted November 27, 2007; amended January 15, 2015; amended April 26, 2017, effective April 26, 2017; Amended July 24, 2017.