

VIRGINIA BOARD OF BAR EXAMINERS

2201 W. Broad Street • Suite 101 • Richmond, Virginia 23220 • (804) 367-0412

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF MILITARY LEGAL ASSISTANCE ATTORNEY

Pursuant to Rule 1A:6 of the Rules of the
Supreme Court of Virginia

**Read the Rules, Directions and Checklist before beginning this application.
All applications and forms must be TYPED**

I, the applicant named below, hereby apply to the Virginia Board of Bar Examiners for a certificate as a Registered Military Legal Assistance Attorney in Virginia in conformity with Rule 1A:6 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia. I am serving in or employed by the Armed Forces of the United States of America and stationed within the Commonwealth of Virginia, and I am authorized to provide legal assistance pursuant to 10 U.S. Code Section 1044.

The applicant must use his or her full legal name in all places where such name is required. A note about the use of your full legal name follows: If the Board certifies you for admission, you will be licensed in your full legal name. This is your full name as it appears on your birth certificate or name change order. Initials are not acceptable unless initials are part of your full legal name. If you are married and if you have never assumed your husband's last name on any educational, financial or legal documents, your full legal name would be your maiden name. If you have assumed your husband's last name, your middle name may be your middle name as shown on your birth certificate, your maiden name or both if you so choose. Complete your full legal name in the box provided below.

My full legal name:

Title	First	Middle	Last	Suffix
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My home/permanent address:

My mailing address (if different from above):

Present Duty Station: _____

Located at (address): _____

Telephone number: (_____) _____

Commanding Officer's Name and Telephone Number: _____

Send all correspondence to the following address (check one): [] home; [] mailing; [] duty station

My home telephone*: (_____) _____

My business telephone*: (_____) _____

(*Notify the Board office immediately and in writing of any change of address or telephone number)

My Social Security Number: _____ - _____ - _____; or, the Control Number issued to me by the

Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles: _____.

1. I received a Juris Doctor degree from _____
 on _____, _____
At the time of my graduation, such law school was approved by the American Bar Association.
Yes No

Attach hereto an official transcript from your law school which shows all course work completed, grades received, the type of degree awarded. The transcript must be under school seal and signed by the dean or registrar.

1. (a) Have you ever made prior application for admission to the Virginia Bar by examination or on motion (without examination)? **Yes No**
 If yes, give type of each application, the dates of application and results below.

1. (b) I list below **ALL** jurisdictions (other than Virginia) to which I have ever applied for examination and/or admission to practice law, specifying the state, date of each such examination, and if you took an examination, state whether you passed or failed. If successful, state whether you were admitted and the date admitted. If you were admitted by motion or reciprocity, please indicate. Continue on a separate sheet, if needed.

State*	Exam Date (Mo/Yr)	Pass or Fail?	By Motion (Yes or No)	Admitted (Yes or No)	Admitted (Mo/Yr)	If admitted, are you an active member of the bar? (Yes or No)

***IF ADMITTED IN New York, INDICATE WHICH DEPARTMENT**

1. (c) For ALL jurisdictions where you have ever been admitted to practice law, you must enclose a Certificate of Discipline from the proper disciplinary authority, which entertains complaints against lawyers. Such certificate must provide all information, reports, findings, documents and correspondence of any kind concerning your performance as a lawyer. This certificate is required even if you are on inactive status. NOTE: Check with the authority because you may be required to execute an authorization and release form.
1. (d) For each jurisdiction listed above where you are an active member of the bar, enclose a Certificate of Good Standing personally signed by the presiding judge or other appropriate official of the jurisdiction. The certificate must state that you are licensed to practiced law and that you are an active member in good standing of the bar. Note: Your application MUST include at least one such certificate.
1. (e) For each jurisdiction listed above where you are an inactive member of the bar, attach a Certificate from the presiding judge or State Bar of the jurisdiction that states the date you were licensed to practiced law, the date you elected inactive status and that you were in good standing on the date you elected inactive status.
2. **Yes No** I enclose the fully completed Form RMA-#1 (Affidavit In Compliance with Rule 1A:6).
3. **Yes No** I enclose the original and one copy of my fully completed Applicant's Character and Fitness Questionnaire, BOTH bearing my original signature and sworn to before a Notary Public.
4. **Yes No** I understand that if all questions contained in this application are not answered fully and completely on its initial submission the application may not be considered as being filed.
5. **Yes No** I acknowledge that this is a continuing application process and if any answer on this application changes prior to my admission to the bar, I am required to notify the Board in writing of such change.

Authorization and Release (To be completed by ALL applicants)

By filing this application, I hereby:

- (A) Authorize and request every person, firm, corporation, association and agency having control of any documents, records or other writing, or having other information pertaining to me to furnish to the Board any such writings and information the Board believes will relate to my moral character and/or fitness to engage in the practice of law, and to permit the Board and any of its agents or representatives to inspect and make copies of such documents, records, and other writings.
- (B) Agree that all information provided by this application, and all other information received by the Board and believed by it to have a bearing upon my moral character and/or fitness to engage in the practice of law, may be released by the Board at any time, and without liability to the Board, its members, agents, or other representatives, to any judicial, executive or legislative official, or to any investigatory or regulatory body or agency, when the Board considers such release to be reasonably needed by such official, body or agency in response to his or its inquiry relating to my moral character and/or fitness to engage in the practice of law.
- (C) Agree that the foregoing shall remain in effect for any future application which I may make to the Board.

(Signature of Applicant)

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,

COUNTY/CITY OF _____, to-wit:

I, a Notary Public for the jurisdiction aforesaid, certify that this day personally appeared before me in the County/City of _____, Virginia, _____, who thereupon
(name of applicant)
made oath that all statements contained in this application are true and complete.

Given under my hand this _____ day of _____, _____.

Notary Public

My Commission expires _____, _____.

(SEAL)

5/1/2003

**AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH
RULE 1A:6.(b)(3) of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia**

NAME of Applicant: _____

I, _____ (Full legal name) do hereby certify that I am the
_____ (commanding officer or staff judge advocate or chief legal officer)
of _____ (name of military base) where the
above named applicant is employed, stationed or assigned. I further certify that the applicant is serving as a lawyer to
provide legal services exclusively for the military, that the nature of the applicant's employment/service conforms to the
requirements of Rule 1A:6. of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia and that I shall notify the Virginia State Bar
immediately upon the termination of the applicant's employment/service at this military base. I further certify that the
applicant and I have read and understand the attached regulations and limitations imposed on Registered Military Legal
Assistance Attorneys by the Supreme Court of Virginia. To confirm that we shall abide by these regulations and
limitations, the applicant and I have signed the bottom of each page.

(Signature)

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,

COUNTY/CITY OF _____, to-wit:

I, a Notary Public for the jurisdiction aforesaid, certify that this day personally appeared before me in the
County/City of _____, Virginia,
_____, (Name of affiant)

who thereupon made oath that all statements set out above are true and complete.

Given under my hand this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Notary Public

My Commission expires _____, 20_____.

(SEAL)

Each lawyer issued a Military Legal Assistance Attorney Certificate shall immediately register as an active member of the Virginia State Bar, with his or her practice limited as provided in Rule 1A:6, and pay to the Virginia State Bar the same dues required of regularly admitted active members. (The requirement to pay dues shall be waived for a lawyer during the first two years immediately following the initial issue of a Military Legal Assistance Attorney Certificate to that lawyer.)

The practice of a lawyer registered under Rule 1A:6. shall be limited within this Commonwealth to practice exclusively pursuant to the laws, rules, and regulations governing the military services, and may include appearing before a court or tribunal of this Commonwealth as counsel for a client eligible for legal assistance on:

- (1) Adoptions,
- (2) Guardianships,
- (3) Name changes,
- (4) Divorces,
- (5) Paternity,
- (6) Child custody and visitation, and child and spousal support,
- (7) Landlord-tenant disputes on behalf of tenants,
- (8) Consumer advocacy cases involving alleged breaches of contracts or warranties, repossession, or fraud,
- (9) Garnishment defense,
- (10) Probate,
- (11) Enforcement of rights under the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 (50 U.S. Code App. §§ 501-548, 560-593),
- (12) Enforcement of rights under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (38 U.S. Code §§ 4301-4333), and
- (13) Such other cases within the discretion of the court or tribunal before which the matter is pending.

Representation in proceedings before courts or tribunals of this Commonwealth shall be limited to low-income legal assistance clients for whom hiring a lawyer in private practice would entail a substantial financial hardship to themselves or their families. All pleadings filed by a legal assistance attorney will cite Rule 1A:6, include the name, complete address, and telephone number of the military legal office representing the client and the name, rank or grade, and armed service of the lawyer registered under Rule 1A:6. providing representation.

No lawyer registered under Rule 1A:6. shall (i) undertake to represent any person other than an eligible legal assistance client before a court or tribunal of this Commonwealth, (ii) offer to provide legal services in this Commonwealth to any person other than as authorized by his or her military service, (iii) undertake to provide legal services in this Commonwealth to any person other than as authorized by his or her military service, or (iv) hold himself or herself out in this Commonwealth to be authorized to provide legal services to any person other than as authorized by his or her military service.

Representing clients eligible for legal assistance in the courts or tribunals of this Commonwealth under Rule 1A:6. shall be deemed the practice of law and shall subject the lawyer to all rules governing the practice of law in Virginia, including the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct and the Rules of Procedure for Disciplining Lawyers (Rules of Court, Pt. 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13). Jurisdiction of the Virginia State Bar shall continue whether or not the lawyer retains the Military Legal Assistance Attorney Certificate and irrespective of the lawyer's presence in Virginia.

Affiant's Signature: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____

Each person registered with the Virginia State Bar as an active member on the basis of a Military Legal Assistance Attorney Certificate shall be subject to the same membership obligations as other active members, including completion of the required Professionalism Course and annual Mandatory Continuing Education requirements. A lawyer registered under Rule 1A:6. shall use as his or her address of record with the Virginia State Bar the military address in Virginia of the commanding officer, staff judge advocate or chief legal officer which filed the affidavit on the lawyer's behalf.

Each person issued a Military Legal Assistance Attorney Certificate shall promptly report to the Virginia State Bar any change in employment or military service, any change in bar membership status in any state or territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia where the applicant has been admitted to the practice of law, or the imposition of any disciplinary sanction in a state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia or by any federal court or agency where the applicant has been admitted to the practice of law.

The limited authority to practice law which may be granted under Rule 1A:6. shall be automatically terminated when (i) the lawyer is no longer employed, stationed, or assigned at the military base in Virginia from which affidavit required by Rule 1A:6. was filed, (ii) the lawyer has been admitted to the practice of law in this state by examination or pursuant to any other provision of part 1A of these Rules, (iii) the lawyer fails to comply with any provision of Rule 1A:6., (iv) the lawyer fails to maintain current good standing as an active member of a bar in at least one state or territory of the United States, other than Virginia, or the District of Columbia, or (v) when suspended or disbarred for disciplinary reasons in any state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia or by any federal court or agency where the lawyer has been admitted to the practice of law. If a lawyer is no longer employed, stationed, or assigned at the military base in Virginia from which affidavit required by Rule 1A:6. was filed, but the lawyer, within six months after the last day of employment or service, is re-employed by, or militarily reassigned to, the same military base or another military base in Virginia filing the affidavit required by Rule 1A:6., the Military Legal Assistance Attorney Certificate shall be reinstated upon evidence satisfactory to the Board that the lawyer remains in full compliance with all requirements of Rule 1A:6.

The period of time a lawyer practices law full time on the basis of a Military Legal Assistance Attorney Certificate issued pursuant to Rule 1A:6. shall be considered in determining whether such lawyer has fulfilled the requirements for admission to practice law in this Commonwealth without examination under Rule 1A:1 and any guidelines approved by the Supreme Court of Virginia for review of applications for admission without examination. Only persons who have received a J.D. degree from a law school approved by the American Bar Association at the time of such person's graduation are eligible to apply for admission to the Virginia bar under Rule 1A:1.

Affiant's Signature: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____