

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

**FILED**  
**January 6, 1997**  
**Cecil W. Crowson**  
**Appellate Court Clerk**

IN RE:           Petition for Approval of        )  
                  Certification Standards    )  
                  for Estate Planning        )  
                  Specialists                    )

No. 01S01-9606-OT-00128

**ORDER AMENDING AND APPROVING STANDARDS**

The Tennessee Commission on Continuing Legal Education and Specialization (Commission) filed a Petition for Approval of Certification Standards for Estate Planning Specialists on June 25, 1996. By Order dated September 23, 1996, this Court, pursuant to Rule 21, Section 10.04, Rules of the Supreme Court, set a filing date for comments in this matter of November 17, 1996. By Order dated October 2, 1996, this court set a hearing date for 11:00 a.m., December 12, 1996. Comments have been received in this matter from the Nashville Bar Association and several individual attorneys. A Response to those comments was filed by the Commission. At the hearing on December 12, Allan Ramsaur, Esq., appeared on behalf of the Nashville Bar Association, Lawrence R. Ahern, III, Esq., appeared on behalf of the Commission, and John Henry, Esq., of Tullahoma and Brian Howard, Esq., of Nashville appeared individually.

Upon consideration of the Petition and its supporting Memorandum, the Comments and the Commission's Response thereto, and the arguments presented at the hearing on this matter, this Court is of the opinion that the Petition filed by the Commission should be granted, with certain amendments to the proposed Certification Standards.

It is, therefore, Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed, that the Certification

Standards proposed by the petition of the Commission for Estate Planning Specialists, be, and the same hereby are, approved, with the addition of the following requirements for Initial Certification and for Continuing Certification.

Initial Certification:

7. Attest that the “substantial involvement: in practice in the estate planning field required by Section II.A of the Standards for Certification of Lawyers Specializing in Estate Planning Law of the National Association of Estate Planners and Councils has been, for the three (3) years immediately preceding the filing of the application, in advising, helping, preparing or representing clients as to whom Tennessee law governs the estate in question.

Continuing Certification:

7. Attest that during the preceding year, the certified specialists practice included filing of the application, included advising, helping, preparing or representing clients as to whom Tennessee law governs the estate in question.

ENTER this 6th day of January, 1997.

FOR THE COURT:

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Adolpho A. Birch, Jr., Chief Justice