



Where the Legal Community Connects

**MCBA Diversity & Inclusion Committee**

Amanda Chua, Bar No. #022143  
Chair, Diversity & Inclusion Committee  
Maricopa County Bar Association  
3030 N. 3rd St., Ste. 1260  
Phoenix, AZ 85012  
(602) 257-4200  
AChua@gilllaw.com

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Re: letter in support of R-21-0016 Petition to Amend Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. 45(a)(2)

To Whom It May Concern:

The Maricopa County Bar Association (“MCBA”)’s Committee on Diversity & Inclusion works to promote historically-underrepresented groups to enter, remain, thrive, and provide leadership within the Arizona’s legal profession. In furtherance of that mission, the Committee offers its full support of R-21-0016 Petition to Amend Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. 45(a)(2) because the amendment will advance the Arizona State Bar’s core value of ensuring the legal profession and justice system reflect the community they serve in its varying levels of diversity. The amendment would also bring awareness to reducing bias in the legal community while promoting awareness and improving diversity and inclusion within the profession.

As history and recent events continue to show, biases impact every portion of our society, and the legal profession is no exception. Although the State Bar has already established diversity and inclusion as Core Values, an education requirement about diversity and inclusion, as well as the elimination of biases within the legal system, would help solidify Arizona’s dedication to improving the Bar to best serve the community and in turn improve the public’s perception of the profession.

The Committee recognizes that legal professionals that already attend CLEs devoted to diversity, inclusion, and/or bias are individuals that understand and/or are affected by the topic. A requirement of at least 1.0 hour in continued legal education on the topic, however, would expose a larger audience to material pertaining to diversity and inclusion, including to those who do not yet recognize the biases that exist in the profession or how they affect the legal system as a whole.



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For these reasons, the MCBA Diversity & Inclusion Committee respectfully requests that the Court adopt a rule requiring 1.0 hour of CLE for professional responsibility addressing diversity, inclusion, and the elimination of bias.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amanda S. Chua".

Amanda S. Chua

Chair, Diversity & Inclusion Committee