

*District of Columbia
Court of Appeals*

No. M-224-05

BEFORE: Washington, Chief Judge; Terry, Schwelb, Farrell, Wagner, Ruiz, Reid,
Glickman, and Kramer, Associate Judges

ORDER AUTHORIZING PRACTICE OF LAW BY ATTORNEYS DISPLACED BY HURRICANE KATRINA

WHEREAS Hurricane Katrina has caused widespread devastation that made it impossible to live or practice law in substantial portions of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, and forced thousands of residents to relocate to other jurisdictions, including the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS the evacuees include attorneys licensed in those states with professional obligations to their clients;

WHEREAS the District of Columbia Bar and the American Bar Association have asked that courts accommodate the practice needs of lawyers displaced by Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS it is in the interests of justice to avoid uncertainty about whether Rule 49 of the Rules of this Court permits displaced lawyers to continue to practice while temporarily residing in the District of Columbia;

Now, therefore, it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

Notwithstanding anything in Rule 49, an attorney who is an active member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama, and who has been displaced from the attorney's home jurisdiction due to Hurricane Katrina, is permitted to practice law until February 28, 2006, from a location in the District of Columbia as if the attorney were located in the attorney's home jurisdiction.

Any attorney practicing law from a location in the District of Columbia pursuant to this Order shall inform clients and other persons to whom the attorney holds out as an attorney that the attorney is not admitted to practice in the District of Columbia.

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ENTERED BY DIRECTION OF THE COURT

GARLAND PINKSTON, JR., Clerk

September 20, 2005