ANDERSON CENTER SEVENTH CIRCUIT MOOT COURT COMPETITION

COMPETITOR REQUEST FOR RULES & PROBLEM CLARIFICATION

(posted January 31, 2024)

Rule Clarification Questions Received between 5:01pm on January 23 and 5:00pm on January 30 (question period 3 / final posting)

Problem Clarification Question 3.1:

Clarification Question: Are we correct in understanding that the appellants have appealed the district court's comment about Mr. Oyoung being disqualified even though the appellants affirmatively disqualified Mr. Oyoung on their own and have not attempted to have him participate? Or are they now trying to bring Mr. Oyoung onto this case, and that is why they have appealed the decision?

Committee Response to Problem Clarification Question 3.1:

This question appears to conflate the disqualification of an attorney and the step of screening an attorney within a firm from a particular client's matters. A firm may screen an attorney from participation in its representation of a client as a precautionary measure; the act of establishing a screen should not be understood to constitute an admission that the attorney is disqualified from representing that client.

Julius & Handler, LLP does not intend to have Mr. Oyoung work on Ms. Zott's case and intends to maintain the screen as long as the firm represents Ms. Zott. The firm has appealed the district court's decision because they believe Mr. Oyoung does not meet the standard for disqualification.

Problem Clarification Question 3.2:

I have a quick question about the Anderson 7th Circuit problem. Do we have access to Handler's fee structure for the Zott representation? The problem seems unclear as to whether Mr. Oyoung received fees for Handler's work on Zott's case.

Committee Response to Problem Clarification Question 3.1:

The Record does not directly provide this information, but all competitors may assume that, as an associate, Mr. Oyoung receives a salary that is in line with that paid to other associates at Julius & Handler, LLP and that none of his compensation is directly related to Julius & Handler, LLP's representation of Ms. Zott.