

**Rule 2.01 | GENERAL ADMISSION TO PRACTICE**

(a) No person shall be permitted to appear or be heard as counsel for another in any proceeding in this Court unless first admitted to practice in the Court pursuant to this rule (or heretofore admitted under prior rules of the Court).

(b) Only those persons who are members in good standing of The Florida Bar shall be eligible for general admission to the bar of the Court. If a person ceases to be a member in good standing of The Florida Bar, that person will be suspended from the bar of the Court until that person is reinstated to The Florida Bar. However, if the suspension from The Florida Bar is 90 days or less, the person will be automatically reinstated. If the suspension is 91 days or more, that person must apply with the Clerk of Court for reinstatement. Each applicant for general admission shall file with the Clerk a written petition setting forth his residence and office address, his general and legal education, and the Courts to which he has previously been admitted to practice. The petition shall be accompanied by the certificates of two members in good standing of the bar of the Court attesting that the applicant is of good moral character and is otherwise competent and eligible for general admission to practice in the Court (provided, however, members in good standing of the bars of the Northern or Southern Districts of Florida shall be admitted on petition without necessity of such certificates). In addition, each applicant shall furnish a certificate certifying that the applicant has read and is familiar with each of the following: The Federal Rules of Evidence, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, and the Local Rules of the Middle District of Florida.

(c) Petitions for general admission to practice shall be called from time to time in open Court on notice to the applicants; except that, under special circumstances, any United States District Judge or United States Magistrate Judge of the Court may entertain a petition at any time. Upon taking the prescribed oath and payment of the prescribed enrollment fee, the applicant shall then be enrolled as a member of the bar of the Court and the Clerk shall issue a suitable certificate to that effect.

(d) To maintain good standing in the bar of this Court, each attorney admitted under this rule, beginning in the year following the year of the attorney's admission, must pay a periodic fee set by administrative order and, unless exempted by the Chief Judge for good cause, must register with the Clerk of Court and maintain an e-mail address for electronic service by the Clerk during the attorney's membership in the bar of this Court. An attorney who fails to pay timely the periodic fee or fails without exemption to maintain a registered e-mail address is subject to removal from membership in the bar of this Court.