

No. 8] *Legal Profession (Amendment) Act* [2007.

Short title and commencement

1. This Act may be cited as the Legal Profession (Amendment) Act 2007.

Interpretation

2. In this Act "principal Act" means the Legal Profession Act, Cap 2.04.

Amendment to section 2

3. Section 2 of the principal Act is amended —

(a) in subsection (1) —

(i) by deleting the definition of "Agreement "; and

(ii) by deleting the definition of "Council of Legal Education" and substituting the following:

"Council of Legal Education" means the Council of Legal Education established under Articles 1- 4 of the Agreement Establishing the Council of Legal Education as set out in the Seventh Schedule; " ; and

(b) by deleting subsections (2) and (3).

Amendment to section 15

4. Section 15 of the principal Act is deleted and substituted by the following:

"Admission of citizens to practise

15.— (1) Subject to subsection (3) and section 16, the Court may admit to practise as an attorney-at-law in Saint Lucia —

(a) any English or Irish barrister-at-law, or any Scottish advocate;

(b) any barrister or advocate of any of the Superior Courts of any British Possession where similar privileges are accorded to barristers of the Supreme Court;

(c) any solicitor of the United Kingdom or Law Agent admitted to practice in Scotland;

(d) subject to subsection (2), any person who being not less than 18 years and otherwise qualified, shall have passed the inter-

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mediate and final examinations of the Law Society of England; or

- (e) any person of not less than 18 years who has obtained the Legal Education Certificate awarded by the Council of Legal Education.

(2) In order to be admitted under subsection 1 (d) a person shall produce to the Registrar, certificates of the Law Society of England that he or she has passed the intermediate and final examinations of the said Law Society and shall at the same time produce satisfactory evidence —

- (a) that he or she served for five years continuously in the Chambers of a practicing barrister and has throughout that time been of a good character; and

- (b) that he or she has passed one of the following examinations, that is to say —

(i) the Matriculation Examination of the University of London;

(ii) the School Certificate Examination of the University of Cambridge; or

(iii) any examination prescribed as qualifying for admission to the Inns of Court.

(3) In order to be admitted to practise as an attorney -at -law in Saint Lucia under subsection (1), a person shall make an application to the High Court and satisfy the High Court that —

- (a) he or she is a citizen of Saint Lucia;

- (b) he or she is of good character;

- (c) he or she does not have a criminal record except if it is for a minor traffic offence;

- (d) he or she is not declared by a court to be bankrupt; and

- (e) he or she has paid the prescribed fee.

(4) The High Court may by order refuse to admit a person who fails to satisfy the requirements of this section. " .

Amendment to section 16

5. Section 16 of the principal Act is amended —

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(a) in subsection (1), by deleting the words "and who has the qualifications prescribed by law" between the word "Saint Lucia" and the word "shall" and substituting the following:

"and who satisfies the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) of section 15;" and

(b) in subsection (3)(a), by deleting the words "has the qualifications prescribed by law" after the word "person" and substituting the following:

"satisfies the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) of section 15;" .

Amendment to the Seventh Schedule

6. The Seventh Schedule is amended by deleting Articles 5, 6, 7,8,9, 10, 11 and 12.

Passed in the House of Assembly this 16th day of August, 2007.

SARAH FLOOD-BEAUBRUN,
Speaker of the House.

Passed in the Senate this 24th day of August, 2007.

ROSEMARIE HUSBANDS-MATHURIN,
President of the Senate.