

1 **Rule 11-511. Screening panel composition; responsibilities.**

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3 (a) **Screening panel composition.** The Committee members, except for the Committee
4 chair and vice chairs, are divided into four screening panels. Each screening panel shall
5 be comprised of a minimum-sections of five members ~~each~~, including four Lawyers and
6 one public member. Screening panels may have more than five members, including up
7 to two public members and up to five lawyer members, but no more than four lawyer
8 members and one public member will participate in any screening panel hearing.

9 Whenever a screening panel is assigned a Complaint involving a licensed paralegal
10 practitioner, the Committee chair may, as practical, assign up to two Committee
11 members who are licensed paralegal practitioners to the screening panel.

12 (b) **Screening panel number.** All screening panel hearings must have five panel
13 members present, including a unless all parties agree to fewer than five, but not fewer
14 than three, panel members. A panel chair or vice chair and a public member ~~must be~~
15 ~~present at each screening panel hearing.~~

16 (c) **Chair and vice chair.** The Supreme Court will name a chair and vice chair for each
17 screening panel. The chair or, in the chair's absence, vice chair presides over screening
18 panel hearings. The panel chair may call upon the vice chair to assist in any of the panel
19 chair's duties. Chairs or vice chairs from other panels may conduct hearings if the
20 regular chair and vice chair are unable to attend. If the chair is removed or resigns, the
21 vice chair will become the chair, and the Court will appoint a Committee member to
22 serve as vice chair.

23 (d) **Voting.** A majority vote of those members present and voting at any ~~proceeding~~
24 screening panel hearing is required for a ~~screening panel~~ determination. ~~The chair, or~~
25 ~~vice chair if the chair is not present, may not vote unless necessary to break a tie. The~~
26 ~~chair or vice chair may, however, fully participate in the proceeding.~~

27 (e) **Meetings.** Each screening panel meets as necessary to effectively and promptly carry
28 out its duties. The Committee chair may convene the entire Committee at such other
29 times as necessary to effectively and promptly carry out the Committee's duties.

30 (f) **Alternates.** Members of any screening panel may serve as alternate members on
31 different screening panels. The Committee chair and the Committee vice chairs may
32 serve as alternate members on all screening panels.

33 (g) **Responsibilities.**

34 (1) Complaints are randomly assigned to a screening panel. The screening panels
35 review and hear all Complaints charging that a Lawyer engaged in unethical or
36 unprofessional conduct, and may consider any other relevant information.
37 Screening panels determine the action to be taken on any Complaint that, in

38 applying these rules to the facts of the case, is most consistent with the
39 public interest and the Rules of Professional Conduct or Licensed
40 Paralegal Practitioner Rules of Professional Conduct.

41 (2) Unless otherwise provided in this article, whenever the OPC may be
42 present before a screening panel during a hearing, the Respondent may
43 also be present.
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