

**27 NCAC 01E .0102 NAME OF PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION OR PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**

(a) "Name of Professional Corporation" The name of every professional corporation shall contain the surname of one or more of its shareholders or of one or more persons who were associated with its immediate corporate, individual, partnership, or professional limited liability company predecessor in the practice of law and shall not contain any other name, word, or character (other than punctuation marks and conjunctions) except as required or permitted by Rules .0102(a)(1), (2) and (5) in this Rule. The following additional requirements shall apply to the name of a professional corporation:

- (1) "Corporate Designation" The name of a professional corporation shall end with the following words:
  - (A) "Professional Association" or the abbreviation "P.A."; or
  - (B) "Professional Corporation" or the abbreviation "P.C."
- (2) "Deceased or Retired Shareholder" The surname of any shareholder of a professional corporation may be retained in the corporate name after such person's death, retirement or inactivity due to age or disability, even though such person may have disposed of his or her shares of stock in the professional corporation;
- (3) "Disqualified Shareholder" If a shareholder in a professional corporation whose surname appears in the corporate name becomes legally disqualified to render professional services in North Carolina or, if the shareholder is not licensed in North Carolina, in any other jurisdiction in which the shareholder is licensed, the name of the professional corporation shall be promptly changed to eliminate the name of such shareholder, and such shareholder shall promptly dispose of his or her shares of stock in the corporation;
- (4) "Shareholder Becomes Judge or Official" If a shareholder in a professional corporation whose surname appears in the corporate name becomes a judge or other adjudicatory officer or holds any other office which disqualifies such shareholder to practice law, the name of the professional corporation shall be promptly changed to eliminate the name of such shareholder and such person shall promptly dispose of his or her shares of stock in the corporation;
- (5) "Trade Name Allowed" A professional corporation shall not use any name other than its corporate name, except to the extent a trade name or other name is required or permitted by statute, rule of court or the Rules of Professional Conduct.

(b) "Name of Professional Limited Liability Company" The name of every professional limited liability company shall contain the surname of one or more of its members or one or more persons who were associated with its immediate corporate, individual, partnership, or professional limited liability company predecessor in the practice of law and shall not contain any other name, word or character (other than punctuation marks and conjunctions) except as required or permitted by Rules .0102(b)(1), (2) and (5) below. The following requirements shall apply to the name of a professional limited liability company:

- (1) "Professional Limited Liability Company Designation" The name of a professional limited liability company shall end with the words "Professional Limited Liability Company" or the abbreviations "P.L.L.C." or "PLLC";
- (2) "Deceased or Retired Member" The surname of any member of a professional limited liability company may be retained in the limited liability company name after such person's death, retirement, or inactivity due to age or disability, even though such person may have disposed of his or her interest in the professional limited liability company;
- (3) "Disqualified Member" If a member of a professional limited liability company whose surname appears in the name of such professional limited liability company becomes legally disqualified to render professional services in North Carolina or, if the member is not licensed in North Carolina, in any other jurisdiction in which the member is licensed, the name of the professional limited liability company shall be promptly changed to eliminate the name of such member, and such member shall promptly dispose of his or her interest in the professional limited liability company;
- (4) "Member Becomes Judge or Official" If a member of a professional limited liability company whose surname appears in the professional limited liability company name becomes a judge or other adjudicatory official or holds any other office which disqualifies such person to practice law, the name of the professional limited liability company shall be promptly changed to eliminate the name of such member and such person shall promptly dispose of his or her interest in the professional limited liability company;

- (5) "Trade Name Allowed" A professional limited liability company shall not use any name other than its limited liability company name, except to the extent a trade name or other name is required or permitted by statute, rule of court, or the Rules of Professional Conduct.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 84-23;  
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