Phone: (480) 990-1887 Fax (480) 990-1889

### President

Trisha M. Rich Holland & Knight LLP Chicago, IL

# President-Elect

Tyler Maulsby Frankfurt, Kurnit, Klein & Selz, P.C. New York, NY

## Secretary

Kendra L. Basner O'Rielly & Roche, LLP San Francisco, CA

# Treasurer

David Majchrzak Klinedinst PC San Diego, CA

#### 2022-2024 Directors Sari W. Montgomery

Sari W. Montgomery Robinson, Stewart, Montgomery & Doppke, LLC Chicago, IL

> Merri A. Baldwin Rogers Joseph O'Donnell San Francisco, CA

> > Brian L.Tannebaum Tannebaum Law Miami, FL

#### 2021-2023 Directors Emil Ali

McCabe & Ali, LLP Encino, CA

Stacie H. Rosenzweig Halling & Cayo, S.C. Milwaukee, WI

Allison Wood Legal Ethics Consulting, P.C. Chicago, IL

# Immediate Past President Brian S. Faughnan Lewis Thomason Memphis, TN

Executive Director Karolyn Kiburz Scottsdale, AZ March 10, 2023

Ms. Natalie Vera Senior Research Paralegal American Bar Association 312 North Clark Street Chicago, Illinois 60654 natalia.vera@americanbar.org

Re: Amendments to Model Rules of Professional Conduct Concerning Lawyers' Client Due Diligence Obligations

Ms. Vera:

I am the President of the Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers ("APRL"). APRL is a non-profit organization comprised of more than 400 members who are interested in lawyers' professional responsibility, legal ethics, legal malpractice, and the evolving law of lawyering. The great majority of APRL members provide advice to lawyers on legal ethics issues, defend lawyers in discipline matters or civil malpractice cases, act as expert witnesses, teach professional responsibility courses in law schools, or perform ethics-related functions in law firms.

APRL endorses the revision to the Model Rules of Professional Conduct proposed in the January 23, 2023, memorandum of the ABA Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility and Standing Committee on Professional Regulation. APRL applauds the care with which the two Committees have crafted their proposal to clarify a lawyer's client intake obligations to ensure the lawyer's services are not being used to facilitate money laundering crimes.

Very truly yours,

Trisha M. Rich President, 2022-23

cc: Emil Ali

Merri Baldwin

Kendra Basner

Brian Faughnan

David Majchrzak

Tyler Maulsby

Sari Montgomery

Stacie Rosenzweig

Patricia Sallen

Lynda Shely

Brian Tannebaum

Allison Wood