

CONNECTICUT BAR EXAMINING COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT  
JANUARY 24, 2020

The Chair, Hon. Anne C. Dranginis (Ret.), called the public portion of the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. (EST). Present were Raymond L. Baribeault, Jr., Hon. Nina Elgo, Edward J. Gavin, Eric M. Gross, Karen L. Karpie, Gail E. McTaggart, Denise Martino Phelan, Timothy P. Pothin, Amir Shaikh, Robert D. Silva, Alix Simonetti, Frederic S. Ury, Abby M. Warren, Matthew Wax-Krell, and Perry Zinn Rowthorn. Present by invitation were: Kathleen B. Harrington, Deputy Director, Attorney Services; Jessica F. Kallipolites, Administrative Director; and Lisa Valko, Program Manager.

The Chair presented information and data from the recent NCBE UBE Jurisdictions Forum in San Diego, CA. The Chair also informed the committee that the DOJ matter is now resolved, with the Letter of Resolution having been signed on October 16, 2019.

At 10:04 a.m., members Hon. Elliot Solomon and Martha S. Triplett arrived.

Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Ms. Phelan, it was voted unanimously to accept and record the minutes of the public session of the Special Meeting of December 4, 2019, with Mr. Baribeault, Judge Elgo, Mr. Gavin, Ms. McTaggart, Mr. Pothin, Mr. Shaikh, Mr. Silva, Ms. Simonetti, and Ms. Triplett abstaining.

The Treasurer, Mr. Wax-Krell, presented a comparison of the Committee's income and expenses from the current fiscal year to the previous fiscal year for the First Quarter (July – September 2019) and Second Quarter (October – December 2019).

The Chair reported on the proposal by the Connecticut Bar Association to amend rule 5.5 of the Rules of Professional Conduct. The proposal would permit attorneys to practice in Connecticut pending admission, provided that the attorney applies for admission within a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed six months, after first engaging in practice in Connecticut. The Rules Committee has requested that the CBEC submit any comments on the proposal prior to the March 16, 2020 Rules Committee meeting. During discussion it was noted that the proposal is consistent with the CBEC's current practice handling these types of applications. Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Ms. Simonetti, a majority voted to inform the Rules Committee that the CBEC has no objection to the proposed addition to Rule 5.5 as stated in the letter from the Connecticut Bar Association to Justice McDonald dated January 9, 2020, by a vote of 12 to 6 with Mr. Gross, Ms. Karpie, Ms. McTaggart, Judge Solomon, Ms. Warren, and Mr. Zinn-Rowthorn voting against.

The Deputy Director provided an update to a previously proposed amendment to Article VI-5(e)(v) of the CBEC Regulations (renumbered as Article VI-5(E)(5) effective April 13, 2020) regarding an applicant's right of appeal. The Administrative Office will draft additional language for a proposed amendment to be considered at a future meeting.

The Administrative Director provided a report for the upcoming February 2020 bar examination. There are currently 163 applications pending. There are 16 examinees scheduled to receive nonstandard testing accommodations. Currently 39% of applicants are registered to use a laptop, but this is expected to increase as laptop registration is not yet closed.

The Program Manager provided an update regarding law school admission numbers for the local law schools. It was noted that admission numbers are higher than last year, and that we may see an increased number of applicants for the July 2020 examination, as the class that entered in 2017 and will be graduating in 2020 is expected to be larger than recent years.

The Program Manager presented information regarding the number of applicants transferring a UBE score for admission to Connecticut who failed the UBE in the jurisdiction in which it was administered.

The Program Manager presented proposed amendments to the admission without examination application and forms to incorporate revisions to Article IV of the CBEC Regulations previously adopted by the Committee. Upon motion duly made by Judge Solomon, seconded by Ms. Simonetti, it was voted unanimously to approve the proposed amendments to the application and forms. Discussion was had regarding the documentation required from an applicant in order to show proof that he or she has no attorney disciplinary history.

The Administrative Director provided a report of the number of applicants who withdrew from the February and July 2019 examinations, including the number that received fee credits, the number of applicants that were deemed withdrawn, and the number of those applicants that have reapplied.

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Simonetti, seconded by the Chair, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the public portion of the meeting at 11:14 a.m. (EST).

Respectfully submitted,

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KAREN L. KARPIE  
Secretary