

CONNECTICUT BAR EXAMINING COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT  
FEBRUARY 17, 2017

The Chair, Hon. Anne C. Dranginis (Ret.), called the public portion of the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. (EST). Present were Raymond L. Baribeault, Jr., Edward J. Gavin, Karen L. Karpie, Gail E. McTaggart, Denise Martino Phelan, Timothy P. Pothin, Matthew Wax-Krell, Michael J. Whelton, and Perry Zinn-Rowthorn. Present by invitation were: Kathleen B. Harrington, Deputy Director, Attorney Services; Jessica F. Kallipolites, Administrative Director; and Lisa Valko, Assistant Administrative Director.

Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Ms. Phelan, it was voted unanimously to accept and record, without amendment or correction, the minutes of the public session of the Meeting of January 27, 2017.

At 11:09 a.m., member Alix Simonetti arrived.

The Chair addressed the current fingerprint based background check procedure used for all bar examination, motion and UBE score transfer applicants and the alternatives investigated by the Administrative Office. The Administrative Director addressed the issues presented by the current procedure and the alternatives that were investigated. Discussion was had regarding: (1) balancing the protection of the public against the delay in the application process and the burden placed on the Administrative Office; (2) the information provided through the current process and how that information may be obtained through the alternatives presented; (3) the deterrent effect of conducting the current background searches; and (4) the need to reserve the Committee's right to conduct fingerprint based background searches when deemed appropriate. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Gavin, seconded by Mr. Zinn-Rowthorn, a majority voted (by a vote of 9 to 2 with Ms. Phelan and Mr. Whelton voting against): (1) to conduct background searches of all bar examination, motion and UBE score transfer applicants using the alternative methods presented for a period of one year; (2) to amend the applications for admission to include a statement that "The Connecticut Bar Examining Committee (CBEC) will conduct an extensive background check for all applicants and reserves the right to require applicants to submit fingerprints" on the instructional page and at the beginning of the criminal and motor vehicle proceedings section in each application; and (3) to remove the current language regarding the fingerprint based background searches.

Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Wax-Krell, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the public portion of the meeting at 12:06 p.m. (EST) and to reconvene in the non-public portion of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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MATTHEW WAX-KRELL  
Secretary