

CONNECTICUT BAR EXAMINING COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING – Conducted via ZOOM  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT  
APRIL 22, 2022

The Chair, Hon. Anne C. Dranginis (Ret.), called the public portion of the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. (EDT). Present were Raymond L. Baribeault, Jr., Deborah L. Bradley, Hon. Nina Elgo, Edward J. Gavin, Eric M. Gross, Gail E. McTaggart, David A. Moraghan, Sharon A. Peters, Denise Martino Phelan, Timothy P. Pothin, Perry Zinn Rowthorn, Amir Shaikh, Robert D. Silva, Alix Simonetti, and Matthew Wax-Krell. Present by invitation were Kathleen B. Harrington, Deputy Director, Attorney Services, and Lisa Valko, Director.

The Chair announced the results of the February 2022 bar examination. Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Gross, it was voted unanimously to deem those 56 applicants who had obtained a passing score of 266 as having passed the February 2022 Connecticut bar examination. Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Moraghan, it was voted unanimously to deem those 70 applicants who had failed to obtain a passing score of 266 as having failed to pass the February 2022 Connecticut bar examination. Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Ms. Phelan, it was voted unanimously that those applicants who had obtained a passing score on the February 2022 Connecticut bar examination and who had complied with the rules and regulations governing admission to the bar of the State of Connecticut be recommended to the judges of the Superior Court for admission to the bar, unless further evidence warrants review pursuant to Article VI of the Connecticut Bar Examining Committee Regulations.

Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Gross, it was voted unanimously to accept and record, without amendment or correction, the minutes of the public session of the Regular Meeting of January 28, 2022.

At 10:05 a.m., members Miguel A. Escalera, Jr. and Abby M. Warren arrived.

Mr. Wax-Krell presented the financial report for the Third Quarter (January – March 2022). It was noted that a \$60,000 start-up fee was issued to ILG Technologies to create an online application and applicant portal.

At 10:12 a.m., member Fred S. Ury arrived.

The Director presented information regarding a proposed update to the Committee's permitted and prohibited items policy for the bar exam. It was noted that the National Conference of Bar Examiners, which produces the testing components administered during the bar exam, allows jurisdictions to decide whether to provide certain items for candidates or to allow candidates to bring those items to the test site. More specifically, jurisdictions can allow candidates to bring highlighters, pens, and pencils for the first day of testing (MPT and MEE) and number 2 pencils for the second day of testing (MBE). A large majority of jurisdictions currently allow candidates to bring these items to the test site and maintain a stock of back-up items on hand for candidates that need them. Making

this change will result in cost-savings and time-savings for proctors and staff. Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Ms. Phelan, it was voted unanimously to amend the Committee's permitted and prohibited items policy to permit highlighters, pens, and pencils on Day 1 of testing (MPT and MEE) and number 2 pencils on Day 2 of testing (MBE).

The Director provided a report on the upcoming July 2022 bar exam, noting that 195 applications have been received to date and the final filing deadline is Monday, May 2, 2022. The filing deadline for applicants that were unsuccessful on the February 2022 bar exam is Friday, May 13, 2022. The COVID Planning Subcommittee will be reconvened to assist with planning for the in-person administration of the exam.

Additionally, the Director provided an update on the applicant portal and online application. Staff are working with ILG Technologies and the Judicial Branch's internal IT department on access and website design. The goal is to launch in August 2022 with the February 2023 bar exam candidates to be first round of applicants to utilize the system. The Director noted that ILG Technologies was also the laptop vendor for the February 2022 bar exam, and that the built-in grading system was utilized by the graders and was well-received.

Lastly, the Director updated the Committee on recent staffing changes over the last several months. Both Administrative Assistants transferred to other Judicial Branch offices, and the positions were not backfilled due to changing workflow and workload resulting from the online application and applicant portal. Instead, a higher-level administrative position was approved and posted, and former staff member Diane Bairos accepted and started today as the new Administrative Services Coordinator.

The Chair reported that she and Judge Elgo will be attending the 2022 NCBE Annual Bar Admissions Conference in New Orleans, and she encouraged members to take advantage of future offers to attend if available.

The Chair adjourned the public portion of the meeting at 10:27 a.m. (EDT).

Respectfully submitted,

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HON. ANNE C. DRANGINIS (RET.)  
Secretary *Pro Tem*