

CONNECTICUT BAR EXAMINING COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING – Conducted via ZOOM
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
DECEMBER 3, 2021

The Chair, Hon. Anne C. Dranginis (Ret.), called the public portion of the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. (EDT). Present were Campbell D. Barrett, Kevin C. Connors, Hon. Nina Elgo, Miguel A. Escalera, Jr., Eric M. Gross, Karen L. Karpie, David A. Moraghan, Sharon A. Peters, Timothy P. Pothin, Perry Zinn Rowthorn, Frederic S. Ury, and Matthew Wax-Krell. Present by invitation were: Kathleen B. Harrington, Deputy Director, Attorney Services; Lisa Valko, Director; and Starr Carroll, Program Manager.

The Chair announced that there will be an in-person UBE Forum conducted in January 2022 in San Diego, CA. There is an open spot for a Committee member that would like to attend. Please reach out to the Chair or Director if interested.

At 10:05 a.m., member Abby M. Warren arrived.

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 September 24, 2021.

At 10:10 a.m., member Deborah L. Bradley arrived.

The Director presented the financial reports for the Fourth Quarter (April - June 2021), and the Annual Report (Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021). Overall, it was noted that there was a slight loss of approximately \$1000, which was fortunate due to the uncertainty and changes that have occurred because of the pandemic. Items of note were refunds that were allowed for withdrawals from the July/October 2020 remote bar exam, hotel reimbursements for the each of the remote bar exams, and fees for the software used to administer the bar exam remotely for the previous three (3) administrations.

Additionally, the Director presented information to the Committee regarding the first ABA-approved fully online JD program now offered at St. Mary's University School of Law in Texas. The program is currently capped at twenty-five (25) students, and this pilot program is set to run for five (5) years. It was noted that pursuant to Practice Book § 2-8 (4) and Article II-1 (A) of the CBEC Regulations, a JD degree received through this program will satisfy the educational requirements to sit for the bar exam in Connecticut.

Lastly, the Director provided a report for the upcoming February 2022 bar examination, which will be held in-person on February 22 and 23, 2022 at the CT Convention Center in Hartford. One hundred and fifty-one (151) applications were received, which was down slightly from the February 2020 in-person bar exam for which one hundred and sixty-six (166) applications were received. The Ad Hoc Subcommittee has been working to implement necessary precautions for a successful and safe in-person administration due to the ongoing pandemic. A significant issue at the site is power supply for the laptops due to the spacing needed to maintain social distancing between applicants. The

subcommittee is working with the site to address and resolve these issues. Relatedly, the Director advised the Committee that there is a new vendor for the laptop program, which will be ILG Technologies. Since use of a laptop is optional, the applicants will be responsible for paying the fee directly to ILG, which is \$125. ILG will then issue a rebate to the Committee totaling \$50 per applicant to cover administrative costs of the program.

The Chair adjourned the public portion of the meeting at 10:20 a.m. (EDT) and then convened the non-public portion of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

KAREN L. KARPIE
Secretary