

CONNECTICUT BAR EXAMINING COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING – Conducted via ZOOM
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
JANUARY 28, 2022

The Chair, Hon. Anne C. Dranginis (Ret.), called the public portion of the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. (EDT). Present were Raymond L. Baribeault, Jr., Deborah L. Bradley, Hon. Nina Elgo, Eric M. Gross, Gail E. McTaggart, David A. Moraghan, Denise Martino Phelan, Perry Zinn Rowthorn, Robert D. Silva, Fred Ury, and Matt Wax-Krell. Present by invitation were: Kathleen B. Harrington, Deputy Director, Attorney Services; Lisa Valko, Director; and Starr Carroll, Program Manager.

Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Gross, it was voted unanimously to accept and record the minutes of the public session of the Special Meeting of December 3, 2021.

At 10:05 a.m., members Campbell D. Barrett, Kevin C. Connors, Miguel A. Escalera, Jr., Karen L. Karpie, Amir Shaikh, Alix Simonetti, and Abby M. Warren arrived.

Mr. Wax-Krell presented the financial reports for the First Quarter (July – September 2021) and the Second Quarter (October – December 2021). It was noted that annual comparisons had been suspended due to the pandemic but that they will resume given that most income and expense line items have returned to more normalcy. Discussion was had regarding the lack of invoicing from ExamSoft for the July 2021 remote bar exam. Staff will track this anticipated expense and will keep the Committee updated.

The Director provided a report for the upcoming February 2022 bar examination, which will be held on February 22 and 23, 2022. There are currently 141 applications pending. There are 9 examinees scheduled to receive nonstandard testing accommodations, and 2 examinees receiving administrative accommodations. Additionally, 82% of candidates registered to use their laptops on the written portion of the exam. Lastly, the Director explained that the COVID policy has been finalized and shared with the candidates. All candidates and proctors will wear masks while at the testing site, and candidates must present proof of full vaccination or a negative PCR test result. Candidates will be seated at their own table, will be spaced at least 6 feet from other candidates, and will be provided with individually bagged supplies of pens, pencils, and earplugs.

The Director thereafter presented updates regarding 1- law school admission numbers for the local law schools, 2- 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, and 3- the recently awarded contract for an online application and applicant portal, which is anticipated to go live later this year.

The Chair presented information that was discussed at the NCBE UBE Forum, held remotely on January 21, 2022, regarding the NextGen Bar Exam, which may be administered beginning in 2026. Mr. Baribeault thereafter shared the loss of Judge Harry E. Calmar, who passed away on January 27, 2022.

The Chair adjourned the public portion of the meeting at 10:30 a.m. (EDT).

Respectfully submitted,

KAREN L. KARPIE
Secretary