

CONNECTICUT BAR EXAMINING COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
SEPTEMBER 21, 2007

The Chair, Raymond W. Beckwith of Trumbull, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. (EDT). Present were members John Barnett, Mary Driscoll, Eric Gross (vice Allen L. Williams, III), Honorable Arthur Hiller, Honorable C. Ian McLachlan, Honorable Aaron Ment, Irving H. Perlmutter, Sharon Peters, Denise Martino Phelan, Honorable Barbara Quinn, Matthew Wax-Krell and Michael Whelton. Present by invitation were Howard E. Emond, Jr., Deputy Director Legal Services and Kathleen Wood, Program Manager I.

Upon motion made by Mr. Perlmutter, seconded by Mr. Barnett, the minutes of the meeting of July 13, 2007 were approved unanimously and ordered to be recorded in the minutes of the Connecticut Bar Examining Committee.

Mr. Barnett did not deliver a treasurer's report by reason of the fact that the first quarter of the Committee's fiscal year has not yet been completed.

The Chair reported on the receipt of a letter from the dean of the Concord Law School, a non-American Bar Association internet law school located in Los Angeles, California. No vote or action by the Connecticut Bar Examining Committee was required at this time.

The Chair discussed the contents of a letter dated August 27, 2007 from Harold Hongju Koh, dean of the Yale Law School; Jeremy Paul, dean of the University of Connecticut School of Law and Brad Saxton, dean of the Quinnipiac University School of Law addressed to Honorable Peter T. Zarella as Chair of the Rules Committee of the Connecticut Superior Court. The letter concerned a proposed amendment as to the practice of law in Connecticut by various law school personnel not otherwise admitted in Connecticut. No action or vote need be taken by the Connecticut Bar Examining Committee at this time.

The Chair discussed the recent amendment to the rules of practice approved by the judges of the Superior Court as Section 2-15A concerning the clarification of the status of "house counsel" as defined therein to practice in the State of Connecticut. The Chair announced that any motion to approve the forms for application by in-house counsel will be deferred until the meeting of October 5, 2007 for discussion and vote. Upon motion duly made by Judge Ment, seconded by Mr. Barnett, it was voted eleven (11) in favor, two (2) opposed, to submit any proposed revisions with less intrusiveness into the private lives of the in-house counsel applicants, including those questions involving the mental health of the applicant. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Whelton, seconded by Judge Ment, it was voted unanimously to require the in-house counsel applicant to include in the response to the application all prior felony convictions. Upon motion duly made by Judge Quinn, seconded by Mr. Whelton, it

was voted unanimously to exclude questions concerning the prior military service of the in-house counsel applicant from the application form. Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Judge Quinn, it was voted unanimously to approve the in-house counsel regulations as Section 2-15A as listed and submitted to the members of the Connecticut Bar Examining Committee at the meeting of July 13, 2007.

The Chair reported that the only pending litigation was the action in the Fairfield Superior Court entitled No. FBT-CV-06-4015801 Kamili M. Bell vs. Connecticut Bar Examining Committee wherein the Committee had filed its answer and trial assignment is pending.

Mr. Whelton delivered the report of the Character and Fitness subcommittee. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Whelton, seconded by Mary Driscoll, it was voted unanimously to recommend to the Judges of the Superior Court the admission of 554 to the practice of law in the State of Connecticut. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Whelton, seconded by Judge Hiller, it was voted unanimously to schedule a formal hearing on the admission of 553 to the practice of law in the State of Connecticut. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Whelton, seconded by Judge Hiller, it was voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the New London County Standing Committee and not recommend to the judges of the Superior Court the admission of 586 to the practice of law in the State of Connecticut. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Whelton, seconded by Mary Driscoll, it was voted unanimously to schedule a formal hearing on the admission of 598 unless consent to a conditional admission is obtained. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Whelton, seconded by Mr. Barnett, it was voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Hartford Standing Committee and to recommend to the judges of the Superior Court the admission of 597 to the practice of law in the State of Connecticut.*

The Chair reported on the recommendation of the Laptop Subcommittee that implementation of the laptop program be postponed from the February, 2008 bar examination to the February, 2009 bar examination due to technological problems experienced by the software company that the Committee intended to use. Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Barnett, it was voted unanimously to adopt the Subcommittee's recommendation and postpone the laptop program until the February, 2009 bar examination.

Judge Quinn delivered the report of the Foreign Education Subcommittee. The requests of the applicants Edwin Anyika and William Eckert to sit for the February, 2008 bar examination were not granted, neither applicant possessing the proper educational qualifications. Upon motion duly made by Judge Quinn, seconded by Mr. Beckwith, it was voted unanimously to permit the following applicants to sit for the February, 2008 bar examination: Sheefal Markon, Marcus Yngogo, Christopher Schwartz and P. Trevor Douglas. The applicant Robert Morrison had requested a waiver of the requirement of the applicant to obtain a master of laws degree from an approved American law school. Upon motion duly made by Judge Quinn, seconded by Mr. Whelton, it was voted unanimously to deny the request of the applicant Robert

Morrison and not permit him to sit for the February, 2008 bar examination. Judge Quinn then brought to the Committee's attention that a procedure was required for decisions to be made relative to the foreign education petitions between the present date and December 31, 2007. Upon motion duly made by judge Quinn, seconded by Judge Hiller, it was voted unanimously to grant Judge Quinn the authority to make such decisions unilaterally on behalf of the Committee between the present date and December 31, 2007.

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 12:10 p.m. (EDT).

* Names of applicants have been redacted and replaced with numeric codes to ensure confidentiality as mandated by Practice Book § 2-4A. While matters concerning character and fitness are exempt from the FOIA, in the spirit of openness, the results of the committee's actions are being provided but all personally identifiable information has been withheld.