IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA

In re July 2020 Bar Examination.	))))	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT

The Nebraska Supreme Court continues to carefully monitor the evolving circumstances presented by the spread of the novel coronavirus and the COVID-19 disease. Pursuant to the authority vested in the Chief Justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court under Neb. Const. art. V, § 1, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 7-102, and Neb. Ct. R. § 3-100 et seq., the following administrative order is entered for the following reasons:

WHEREAS, conditions in the State of Nebraska at this time do not warrant changing or cancelling the July 28 and 29, 2020, Bar Examination; however, with the novel coronavirus and COVID-19 disease, and resulting Directed Health Measures, changes to testing dates and procedures are likely necessary;

WHEREAS, Directed Health Measures include, but are not limited to, required social distancing, limiting the number of persons in each exam room as well as other precautions to ensure safety of persons involved with the exam, and hygiene of the facility, testing rooms, and any materials or hand-outs;

IT IS ORDERED the July 2020 Nebraska Bar examination will be administered on July 28 and 29, 2020, along with an additional examination session on September 9 and 10, 2020. It is further noted that:

1) Applicants will be asked to express a preference as to the July 28 and 29, 2020, or September 9 and 10, 2020, exam session, and a reason therefor. Preference for an exam session shall be taken into account, if possible, in assigning applicants to a session;

2) If there is not an equal number of applicants for each session, the Bar Commission shall randomly assign the applicant

pool so that one-half of the applicants will sit for the exam on July 28 and 29, 2020, and the other one-half of the applicants will sit for the exam on September 9 and 10, 2020;

3) Exam session assignments shall not be an appealable decision under Neb. Ct. R. § 3-100 et seq., but timely reassignment requests to a different exam date may be considered upon good cause shown to the Nebraska State Bar Commission.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that

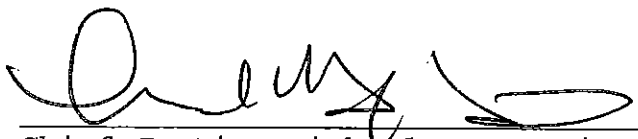
1) In the event the Court determines postponement of the July 28 and 29, 2020, exam session is required based on State Directed Health Measures or other directions of national, state, or local health officials, an additional exam session on September 30 and October 1, 2020, will replace the July 28 and 29, 2020, exam dates. The Nebraska State Bar Commission shall inform the July applicants of the new exam date schedule as soon as the Court issues a decision on the July 28 and 29, 2020, exam session;

2) In administering the exam, the Nebraska State Bar Commission shall take into account all State Directed Health Measures or other directions of national, state, or local health officials in ensuring the health and safety of examinees, proctors, and staff during the examination; and

3) Such safeguards and requirements shall be set out in an Exam Applicant Code of Conduct, which shall be signed by the applicant. Specific directions shall be sent by email to all applicants 10 days prior to the exam.

Dated this 7th day of May, 2020.

BY THE COURT



Chief Justice Michael G. Heavican