The Supreme Court of Ohio

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

March 3, 2021

[Cite as *03/03/2021 Administrative Actions*, 2021-Ohio-565.]

In re Administration of Remote July 27 and 28, 2021 Ohio Bar Examination

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of Ohio issued Executive Order 2020-01D and declared a state of emergency in Ohio in response to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization publicly characterized COVID-19 as a global "pandemic" requiring "urgent and aggressive action" to control the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency concerning COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2021, the President of the United States continued the National Emergency concerning COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2020, the Court issued the order entitled "In re July 2020 Bar Examination and Expansion of Practice Pending Admission during the Admission to the Practice of Law Process," which, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, postponed the July 2020 Ohio Bar Examination ("exam") to September 9 and 10, 2020 ("September");

WHEREAS, on July 22, 2020, the Court issued the order entitled "In re Postponement of In-person September 9-10, 2020 Ohio Bar Examination and Administration of Remote October 5-6, 2020 Ohio Bar Examination; Deadlines; Practice Pending Admission" which, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, postponed the September 2020 Ohio Bar exam to October 5 and 6, 2020 ("October"), authorized entering into memoranda of understanding for reciprocity with other

remote jurisdictions, and provided for application withdrawals, exam transfers, and fee refunds under certain circumstances;

WHEREAS, on November 19, 2020, the Court issued the order entitled "In re Administration of Remote February 23 and 24, 2021 Ohio Bar Examination and Courtesy Seating" which, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, ordered that a remote uniform bar exam be administered on February 23 and 24, 2021, and provided for application withdrawals, exam transfers, and fee refunds under certain circumstances;

NOW THEREFORE, the Court hereby orders the following:

(A) In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and for vital safety, logistical, and planning considerations concerning the administration of the exam, a remote exam shall be administered on July 27 and 28, 2021 ("July") using the uniform bar exam questions prepared by the National Conference of Bar Examiners ("NCBE"), which shall satisfy the exam requirement of Gov.Bar R. I(5).

(B) Applicants who currently have applications pending to sit for the July exam shall have their applications considered for the remote July bar exam. In the event a current applicant does not intend to sit for the remote July bar exam, those applicants either may withdraw their exam application and have their fees refunded or may transfer their exam application to the February 2022 exam. Applicants shall make this election by e-mail to the Office of Bar Admissions. The deadline for applicants to make this election is March 17, 2021.

All other requirements for application and admission to the practice law in the State of Ohio remain in effect.