Supreme Court of Florida

AMENDED[1] ORDER
FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2020

CASE NO.: SC20-939

IN RE: COVID-19 EMERGENCY CHANGES TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE JULY 2020 FLORIDA BAR EXAMINATION

In light of the ongoing public health emergency in this State caused by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and in order to protect the health and safety of those scheduled to take, administer, or proctor the July 2020 Florida General Bar Examination, as well as the health and safety of those individuals' families and communities, and after consultation with the Florida Board of Bar Examiners (Board), the Court has determined that certain requirements concerning the date, format, and administration of that examination should be suspended and emergency examination procedures should be instituted.[2]

RULES SUSPENSION AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Accordingly, effective immediately upon the issuance of this order, all procedures and requirements in Rule of the Supreme Court Relating to Admissions to the Bar 4 (Bar examination) and any other rules that are inconsistent with the

1. This order is amended to change the date of the remote online examination from Tuesday, August 18, 2020 to Wednesday, August 19, 2020.

2. *See* Art. V, § 15, Fla. Const.; Fla. Bar Admiss. R. 1-12.

emergency procedures outlined or authorized in this order are suspended. And, in lieu of the two-day, in-person General Bar Examination currently scheduled to be administered at two separate sites on July 28-29, 2020, the Board shall administer a one-day examination conducted remotely online on Wednesday, August 19, 2020.

The one-day, online examination will consist of one hundred multiple-choice questions and three essay questions developed by the Board. The questions will cover topics normally covered on Parts A and B of the General Bar Examination.[3] *See* Fla. Bar. Admiss. R. 4-22–4-23.

The Board shall develop procedures, consistent with the emergency procedures outlined in this order, for administering, grading, and scaling the online examination. The Board also shall provide information regarding the examination to applicants registered to take the July examination and post that information on the Board's website.[4]

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3. The scores on the questions developed by the Board will not be eligible to be transferred as MBE scores to other jurisdictions or released to candidates via the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) Score Services.

4. The Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) is administered by the NCBE and is not addressed in this order. *See* Fla. Bar Admiss. R. 4-14. Applicants who have not taken the MPRE should check with the NCBE for updates on the availably of that test.

Applicants who were issued tickets of admission to take the July examination shall be considered registered to take the online examination; and only applicants who were issued tickets of admission for the July examination will be allowed to take the online examination. The Board shall include in the procedures it develops procedures for applicants who now wish to defer taking the General Bar Examination until a later date or to withdraw their registration; for applicants requesting test accommodations; and for applicants who notify the Board they are unable to take the examination online.

Applicants are expected to check the Board's website regularly for updates and additional information concerning the online examination.

THE FILING OF A MOTION FOR REHEARING SHALL NOT ALTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES IN THIS ORDER.

CANADY, C.J., and POLSTON, LABARGA, LAWSON, MUÑIZ, and COURIEL, JJ., concur.

A True Copy
Test:

John A. Tomasino
Clerk, Supreme Court

so
Served:

MICHAEL GRANT TANNER
ELIZABETH CLARK TARBERT
JAMES T. ALMON
JOSHUA E. DOYLE
MICHELE A. GAVAGNI
DORI FOSTER-MORALES
HON. DAVID C. REEVES, CHAIRPERSON