CONNECTICUT BAR EXAMINING COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING – Conducted via TEAMS
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
JULY 10, 2026

The Chair, Hon. Anne C. Dranginis (Ret.), called the public portion of the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Present were Raymond L. Baribeault, Jr., Justin Blain, Michael Connelly, Ernest Cotnoir, Hon. Nina Elgo, Edward J. Gavin, Eric M. Gross, Claire Jabbour, Timothy P. Pothin, Robert D. Silva, Alix Simonetti, Frederic S. Ury, and Hon. Matthew Wax-Krell. Present by invitation were Kathleen B. Harrington, Deputy Director, Attorney Services; Lisa Valko, Director; Starr Evans, Program Manager; and Colin Savino, Court Planner. One member of the public, Anthony Colantonio, was present.

The Chair reported that member Denise Martino Phelan submitted her resignation from the CBEC and thanked her for her 35 years of service. The Chair welcomed two new members, Ernest Cotnoir replacing member Kevin Connors, and Claire Jabbour replacing Ms. Phelan.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Pothin, seconded by Mr. Baribeault, it was voted unanimously to accept and record, without amendment or correction, the minutes of the public session of the Special Meeting of June 4, 2026, with Mr. Blain, Mr. Cotnoir, Judge Elgo, Ms. Jabbour, Ms. Simonetti, and Judge Wax-Krell abstaining.

Judge Wax-Krell presented the fourth quarterly financial report and comparison, the projected versus actual budget for fiscal year 2025-2026, and the projected budget for fiscal year 2026-2027. The Director noted that it is necessary to consider adjusting how graders are paid due to the different style of exam questions on the NextGen bar examination.

The Director presented proposed amendments to application questions regarding bar admission applications in other jurisdictions. The amendments concern Question 21 of the Bar Exam Application, and the corresponding questions in the UBE Score Transfer Application, the Admission without Examination Application, the Authorized House Counsel Application, and the Military Spouse Application. The proposed amendments provide a necessary update to more fully capture the various types of applications that must be disclosed. Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Gross, it was voted unanimously to approve the proposed amendments.

The Director presented a proposed amendment to Question 41 of the Bar Exam Application, and the corresponding questions in the UBE Score Transfer Application, the Admission without Examination Application, and the Military Spouse Application. The proposed amendment is in response to ABA Resolution 800 and the recently updated NCBE character and fitness questionnaire, and provides a specific exception to the requirement to disclose certain types of civil and/or administrative matters. Upon motion duly made by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Ury, it was voted unanimously to approve the proposed amendment.

The Director provided a report on the upcoming July 2026 bar examination, scheduled for July 28 and 29, 2026 at the Connecticut Convention Center. Some examinees receiving extended time testing accommodations will continue testing on a third day, July 30, 2026. There was a total of 474 applications filed, with 454 currently pending. Forty-two applicants will receive non-standard testing accommodations.

The Director presented updated 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.

Mr. Gross made a motion to revisit Connecticut's minimum passing bar examination score to consider whether it should be raised. The Chair requested that this item be included on the agenda of a future meeting after the administration and results of the July 2026 NextGen bar examination.

The Chair adjourned the public portion of the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



HON. ANNE C. DRANGINIS (RET.)
Secretary *Pro Tem*