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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania bar exam to be administered remotely in Oct. 2020

The Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners has announced that, in light of continuing concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the next Pennsylvania bar exam will be administered remotely Oct. 5-7, 2020.

“We know this has been a stressful time for bar applicants, and we hope this decision reassures them that they will have an opportunity to take the bar exam safely and soon,” said Board Chair David R. Fine.

In April, the Board rescheduled the exam—ordinarily given in person at the end of July—to the beginning of September. The Board has monitored guidance from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Office of the Governor and the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and it has determined that it cannot proceed with an in-person exam in September while ensuring the safety of applicants, proctors and board staff.

As in previous administrations, the exam will include both the multistate bar exam (the “MBE”), a performance test and a series of essays. The MBE will include 100 questions, which is half the usual number, and the MBE and the essay components of the exam will test on the same subjects as in previous bar exams. The Board has included more information on its website (www.pabarexam.org), and it will continue to provide updates there.

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