

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

**FILED**  
01/24/2019  
Clerk of the  
Appellate Courts

**IN RE: RULE 7, RULES OF THE TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT**

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**No. M2019-00152-SC-BAR-BLE**

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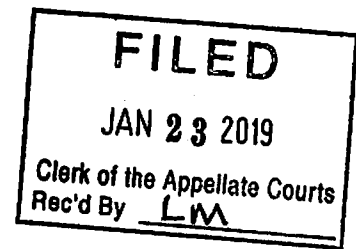
**ORDER**

The Board of Law Examiners (the “Board”) has filed a motion asking for permission to “reopen applications for the February 2019 bar examination for the limited purpose of allowing examination applicants to the bar of the District of Columbia (the ‘DC Bar’) to apply for examination and admission to the bar of Tennessee.” The Board asserts that “applicants to the DC Bar may not be able to sit for a bar examination as the staff of the DC Bar are furloughed and the exam is at risk of being canceled,” and that there are “seventy (70) vacant seats that could be used by DC Bar applicants” who wish to seek admission to the Tennessee bar by taking the February 2019 bar examination in Nashville.

After due consideration, it is ORDERED that the motion is granted. All applicants must comply with the provisions and deadlines stated in the Board’s motion and all other applicable requirements contained in Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7.

PER CURIAM

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AT NASHVILLE



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RULES OF THE TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT

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No. M2019-00152-SC-BAR-BLE

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MOTION TO PERMIT THE TENNESSEE BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS  
TO REOPEN BAR EXAMINATION APPLICATIONS  
FOR THE FEBRUARY 2019 EXAMINATION

The Tennessee Board of Law Examiners (the “TBLE” or “Board”) hereby respectfully requests this Honorable Court to permit the Board to reopen applications for the February 2019 examination for the limited purpose of allowing examination applicants to the bar of the District of Columbia (the “DC Bar”) to apply for examination and admission to the bar of Tennessee. In support of this motion, the TBLE would respectfully show as follows:

1. The deadline for applications for admission by examination for the February 2019 administration was December 20, 2018.<sup>1</sup>
2. The Board does not have discretion to waive or extend dates for filing applications to take the examination.<sup>2</sup>
3. Because of the shutdown of the U.S. Government, applicants to the DC Bar may not be able to sit for a bar examination as the staff of the DC Bar are furloughed and the exam is at risk of being canceled.

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<sup>1</sup> Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 7, Sec. 3.03.

<sup>2</sup> Rule 7, Sec. 3.10.

4. Over 900 applicants to the DC Bar may be affected by the potential cancelation of the DC Bar examination.
5. The Tennessee bar examination<sup>3</sup> will be given in Nashville; presently, there are seventy (70) vacant seats that could be used by DC Bar applicants who wish to seek admission in Tennessee.
6. In order to provide a venue for DC Bar applicants to take the bar examination, the Board seeks permission to re-open bar exam applications for the February 2019 bar examination to no more than seventy (70) applicants with the following parameters and deadlines:
  - a. Applications reopen on Friday, January 25, 2019, exclusively for applicants who have applied for the DC Bar examination and close on February 6, 2019;
  - b. Applicants submit the following on or before the February 6, 2019 deadline:
    - i. a Tennessee Synergy Application, an NCBE Application for background investigation, a resume and a passport picture, in accordance with Board Policy P-3.03, and payment of the application fee; and
    - ii. proof that they applied for the February 2019 DC Bar examination in the form prescribed by the Board;
  - c. Applicants submit undergraduate transcripts, law degree verifications and any waivers or other proof of education,<sup>4</sup> as required by Board Policies, on or before February 17, 2019; and

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<sup>3</sup> The February 2019 examination in Tennessee will be the Uniform Bar Examination, which is also the examination given by the DC Bar.

<sup>4</sup> Non-accredited undergraduate degree, non-ABA law school education, and foreign-educated applicants have additional requirements under Rule 7, Sections 2.01, 2.02 and 7.01, as well as related Board Policies. The requirements differ for applicants to the DC and Tennessee bars, and applicants would be required to meet the Tennessee requirements.

d. Applicants requiring non-standard testing accommodations submit an emergency request for non-standard testing by the February 6, 2019 deadline.

Wherefore, for the foregoing reasons, the Board respectfully requests this Honorable Court to enter an Order permitting the Board to reopen applications for the February 2019 examination as provided herein.

Respectfully submitted,

**TENNESSEE BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS**

By: Barbara M. Zoccola *w/permission*  
Barbara M. Zoccola, President

Attest:



Lisa Peffen, Executive Director

Date: January 23, 2019