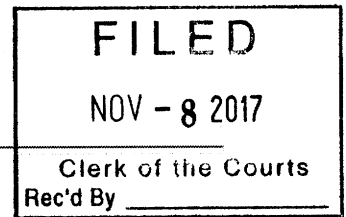


**appellatecourtclerk - Re: Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 7 (docket # ADM2017-02083)**

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**From:** Stephanie Vlasis <stephanie.vlasis@pop.belmont.edu>  
**To:** <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>  
**Date:** 11/8/2017 7:36 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 7 (docket # ADM2017-02083)

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Dear Mr. Hivner:

I am writing in support of the Tennessee Supreme Court's adoption of the recent amendment to Rule 7. More specifically, I urge the Court to adopt the Uniform Bar Exam and allow for admission to the bar of Tennessee via transferred UBE scores.

I am a transplant from North Carolina who has been wrestling with the decision about where to take the Bar exam since well before accepting admission into Belmont University College of Law. I am in my third year at Belmont and I am quickly approaching the pivotal moment when I must finally make a decision about where I would like to practice. I am faced with a decision that, if wrong, would force me to stay for four years in one state before reciprocity would allow me to move between the states. The complications that have arisen with respect to the two options have been incredibly difficult, and I have maintained a list concerning the benefits and drawbacks with respect to whether I should end up practicing law where my family and my home are located, or where my classmates, colleagues and professional connections are.

North Carolina will likely have adopted the UBE by 2019, although that will not matter since I will sit for the Bar in 2018. My situation is unique, particularly due to the timing of the proposed amendment, but I know that I am not the only law student in this position. The amendment to Rule 7 poses a unique and truly life-changing opportunity for me and for many others who wish to practice both in and outside of Tennessee and its neighboring states. Not only will the UBE also provide Tennessee attorneys with a broader legal network, but it will also pave the way for many, like myself, to individualize their professional and business opportunities. It will allow graduating attorneys to have a more valuable attributes in the eyes of future employers, and will increase the well-being of Tennessee's state bar.

Thank you, kindly, for your consideration,

Stephanie Vlasis

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**Belmont University College of Law '18**  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill '13  
[stephanie.vlasis@pop.belmont.edu](mailto:stephanie.vlasis@pop.belmont.edu) | [stephanie.vlasis@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.vlasis@gmail.com)  
[336.287.7548](tel:336.287.7548)

**appellatecourtclerk - UBE adoption - ADM2017-02083**

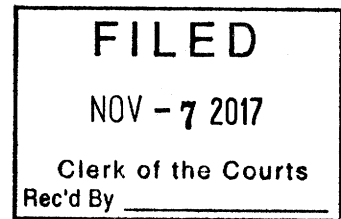
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**From:** Hannah Williams <hannah.williams@pop.belmont.edu>  
**To:** <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>  
**Date:** 11/7/2017 10:39 AM  
**Subject:** UBE adoption - ADM2017-02083

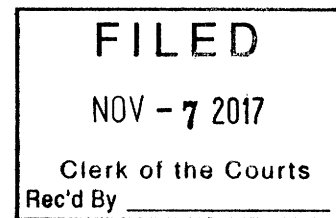
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In regards to ADM2017-02083, I think that Tennessee should adopt the UBE. I am an interested party as a student at Belmont University College of Law.

Hannah Williams



**From:** Patrick Riley <patrick.riley@pop.belmont.edu>  
**To:** <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>  
**Date:** 11/7/2017 8:52 AM  
**Subject:** ADM2017-02083 Comment



Hello,

I am a 3L at Belmont University College of Law, and I strongly urge you to adopt the UBE, beginning in 2018. The UBE would make me a much more flexible attorney, and in today's mobile world, it would take away the disadvantage of only being able to practice in one state. More attorneys would also be able to move here and practice, increasing the diversity and quality of the Tennessee Bar.

The UBE would greatly benefit the State of Tennessee, its attorneys, and the public. Please adopt the UBE.

Sincerely,  
Patrick Riley

**Lisa Marsh - Fwd: ADM2017-02083 (Public Comment)**

ADM2017-02083

**From:** appellatecourtclerk  
**To:** Lisa Marsh  
**Date:** 10/31/2017 8:12 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: ADM2017-02083 (Public Comment)

<b>FILED</b>
OCT 31 2017
Clerk of the Courts
Rec'd By _____

>>> Michael Tackeff <michael.tackeff@gmail.com> 10/30/2017 7:33 PM >>>

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Michael Tackeff, and I am a third year law student at Vanderbilt University Law School. I write this comment in support of the petition filed by the Tennessee Board of Law Examiners to adopt the Uniform Bar Exam ("UBE"), Petition ADM2017-02083.

I appreciate that the Supreme Court will receive far more sophisticated and intricate comments than my own on this complex subject, but I hope that the Court will consider the perspective of someone who is young on the adoption of the UBE.

The simple fact is that the adoption of the UBE in Tennessee will make my life in the next five years a lot less complicated. I came to Tennessee because my partner Samantha is currently working towards her MD/PhD at Vanderbilt in the Medical Scientist Training Program. While we reside here for the next several years, I will practice in Tennessee and intend to take the bar here in July 2018. We previously resided in Boston, and will likely be moving at least several times over the next five to ten years to accomodate our career plans (which include clerking for me, and residency for her). If Tennessee adopts the UBE, I can use that score to gain admission in states where we intend to reside. Adopting the UBE will increase mobility and allow students like myself to practice here while keeping open the option of gaining admission elsewhere within a few years of taking the test.

In conversations with young lawyers and law students at Vanderbilt, what has stood out to me is how willing people are to move if they can secure a dream job somewhere. This runs the gamut from clerking to working at a firm to finding a job as an Assistant United States Attorney. The legal market is still a challenging one, and taking the bar in multiple states is extremely time-consuming, not to mention expensive for those who lack the means to pay for the test and the prep course. It is my hope that greater mobility will allow me to bring a different perspective to each new job, as someone who has practiced in different environments. I was a paralegal in Boston and I bring that perspective to my work here in Tennessee.

I hope that the Court chooses to adopt the UBE, and I appreciate your time.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Tackeff

Brown University '12 (BA)  
Brown University '12 (MA)  
Vanderbilt University Law School '18 (JD expected)  
[michael.c.tackeff@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:michael.c.tackeff@vanderbilt.edu)  
[michael.tackeff@gmail.com](mailto:michael.tackeff@gmail.com)

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**appellatecourtclerk - Tennessee UBE adoption**

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**From:** Barron Lane <vash24dude@gmail.com>  
**To:** <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>  
**Date:** 10/26/2017 10:04 AM  
**Subject:** Tennessee UBE adoption

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According to docket # ADM2017-02083, a petition has been filed for Tennessee to adopt the UBE. I think this is a fantastic idea and has my full support.

