



FILED
NOV 17 2017
Clerk of the Courts
Rec'd By _____

November 17, 2017

Knoxville Bar Association
505 Main Street, Suite 50
P.O. Box 2027
Knoxville, TN 37901-2027
PH: (865) 522-6522
FAX: (865) 523-5662
www.knoxbar.org

VIA E-Mail: appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov

James Hivner, Clerk of Appellate Courts
Tennessee Supreme Court
100 Supreme Court Building
401 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37219-1407

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Immediate Past President

Re: Petition to Amend Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7 Governing Licensing of Attorneys; No. ADM2017-02083

Dear Mr. Hivner:

Pursuant to the Tennessee Supreme Court's Order dated October 20, 2017, in connection with the above-referenced Petition, the Knoxville Bar Association ("KBA") Professionalism Committee (the "Committee") has carefully considered the request of the Board of Law Examiners ("TBLE") to adopt the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE) in Tennessee. However, even after extensive discussion during a meeting on Tuesday, November 14, the Committee was unable to reach a consensus.

Board of Governors

Dwight L. Aarons
E. Michael Brezina III
Kathryn St. Clair Ellis
Lisa J. Hall
Dana C. Holloway
Rachel P. Hurt
Stephen Ross Johnson
Mary D. Miller
Carric S. O'Rear
T. Mitchell Panter
M. Samantha Paris
Cheryl G. Rice
John E. Winters

Order ADM2017-02083A set a comment deadline of January 5, 2018, but on November 6, 2017, the Tennessee Bar Association requested that the Supreme Court extend the comment period until January 31, 2018.

At the KBA Board of Governors' (the "Board") meeting held on November 15, 2017, the Committee presented a detailed report to the Board. Among other things, questions arose as to whether the bar exam should retain Tennessee specific essay questions. If the UBE were adopted, there were also concerns about the proposed implementation date of July 2018. Some members of the Committee believe that if the UBE were adopted that the implementation date should be extended to July 2019 to allow sufficient time for the curriculum and requirements for the mandatory post-admission local law course to be developed. Additionally, some felt that the proposed "local law course" program should be a pre-admission requirement instead of post-admission requirement as recommended by the Board of Law Examiners.

Executive Director
Marsha S. Watson
mwatson@knoxbar.org

Following the Committee's presentation and thorough discussion by the Board, the Board as a whole unanimously adopted the Committee's recommendation to request an extension of time to March 31, 2018. With this letter, the KBA requests that the comment period be extended to March 31, 2018, to allow more time to fully consider the impact of the proposed change and how the UBE, if adopted, could

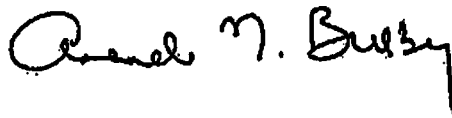
James Hiver, Clerk of Appellate Courts
November 17, 2017
Page 2

most effectively be implemented in light of items that would need to be well coordinated such as the "local law course".

Members of the Board and members of the Committee recognize that the practice of law has become multi-jurisdictional and that the Board of Law Examiners is requesting the change to meet the needs of lawyers who are much more mobile than they once were. The KBA wants to consider the proposed changes carefully and seek input from law school representatives in order to provide comprehensive and constructive comments. That is what lies at the foundation of seeking an extension of the comment period.

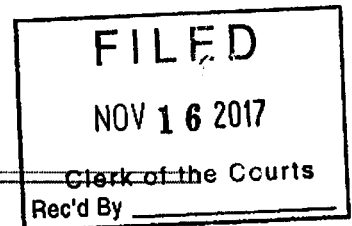
As always, the KBA appreciates the opportunity to comment on proposed Rules promulgated by the Tennessee Supreme Court and we look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience regarding this extension request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amanda M. Busby". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and a long, sweeping underline.

Amanda M. Busby, President
Knoxville Bar Association

cc: Marsha Watson, KBA Executive Director (via e-mail)
KBA Executive Committee (via e-mail)



appellatecourtclerk - ADM2017-02083 Public Comment

From: "Ayers, Will" <john.w.ayers@vhan.com>
To: "appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov" <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>
Date: 11/15/2017 4:04 PM
Subject: ADM2017-02083 Public Comment

Mr. Hivner,

Concerning the Petition to Amend Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7:

The Tennessee Board of Law Examiners' proposed changes to the rule could create positive change for the Tennessee bar, with one vital modification. I fully support adoption of the UBE beginning in 2018, but I also entreat the Board to waive the proposed local law course requirement for students who have completed substantial local law study as part of their law school careers. The definition of "substantial" could encompass an acceptable range of credit hours in both Tennessee substantive law and procedure.

The local law course requirement would impose an unnecessary burden on graduates of the Nashville School of Law, whose academic experience is profoundly rooted in Tennessee law. In particular, NSL students receive substantial local law instruction in the following required subjects:

- Business Associations
- Civil Procedure
- Conflicts
- Crimes and Criminal Procedure
- Domestic Relations
- Estate Planning
- Ethics and Professionalism
- Evidence
- Moot Court
- Property
- Remedies
- Torts
- Wills

Indeed, many of these courses are taught almost wholly on a foundation of Tennessee law, with appropriate attention given to key differences between state and Federal rules and practice.

For this reason, imposing an indiscriminate local law requirement would place a duplicative burden on NSL graduates, who have already completed a four-year program with classes held exclusively at night. Many of these students have full-time jobs and families, and the addition of a local-law course covering the same material as their NSL curriculum in addition to the UBE would impose an unnecessary hardship.

Respectfully submitted,
Will Ayers
3L, Nashville School of Law

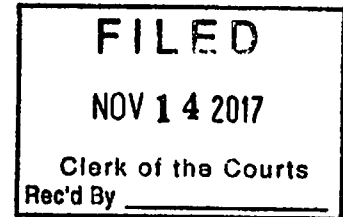
**appellatecourtclerk - The Adoption of the UBE - Public Comment - Docket Number
ADM2017-02083**

From: Charles Davis <davisc17@udayton.edu>
To: <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>
Date: 11/13/2017 1:25 PM
Subject: The Adoption of the UBE - Public Comment - Docket Number ADM2017-02083
Attachments: Jacob Davis Public Comment.docx

I have attached a comment in support of Tennessee adopting the Uniform Bar Exam. Please let me know if anything in addition is needed.

Sincerely,

Charles "Jacob" Davis
University of Dayton School of Law
Juris Doctor Candidate, '19
davisc17@udayton.edu
[\(931\) 619-2754](tel:(931)619-2754)



Charles “Jacob” Davis
Daviscl7@udayton.edu
(931) 619-2754

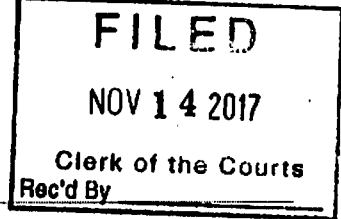
To: James M. Hivner, Clerk
From: C. Jacob Davis, Juris Doctor Candidate, '19
Date: November 13, 2017
RE: Uniform Bar Exam in Tennessee, Docket # ADM2017-02083

The Case for a 21st Century Bar Exam

The allies liberated Europe from Nazi Germany, Americans have walked on the moon, and something called the “internet” has changed the way the world does business. However, the practice of law licensing remains unwilling to change in twenty-two American states. The Uniform Bar Exam (UBE) is here to stay, and that news should be celebrated. As young law students endeavor to make a difference in the world, we are constantly constrained by the shackles of uncertainty in deciding where to live and how to proceed with job searches among other things. Asking students to make a decision about what bar exam they wish to take, and making those scores non-transferrable before a majority have jobs is the simplest way to have job statistics continue to decline. The traditional test forces students that might otherwise find employment in any of the other forty-nine states to narrow their job search to one state and severely limits options for students and employers. The adoption of the Uniform Bar Exam will positively impact law students and employers alike in that students can broaden their job searches and employers will have a larger and more diverse pool of applicants to choose from. In short, the firm gets more qualified applicants, the students get additional job opportunities, and the client benefits the same in their legal matter. I see no reason why the Uniform Bar Exam should not be adopted, unless we want a stagnant system hindering portability. Complex challenges will still exist in the legal industry; however, the Uniform Bar Exam reduces some challenges for all involved. For these reasons, the UBE should indeed be adopted.

appellatecourtclerk - ADM2017-02083

From: Elizabeth Stagich <estagich@icloud.com>
To: <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>
Date: 11/14/2017 11:01 AM
Subject: ADM2017-02083



To whom it may concern,

I am a 3L law student at the University of Memphis and I vigorously support the adoption of the UBE in Tennessee. Score mobility is a top priority for me because I want to have the flexibility to pursue the best job opportunities regardless of state boundaries. If Tennessee does not adopt the UBE I will take my bar exam in a state that does offer the UBE. Without the UBE, Tennessee stands to loose Tennessee law school graduates who value career mobility.

HELEN SFIKAS ROGERS*
LAWRENCE J. KAMM
SIEW-LING SHEA*
GEORGE D. SPANOS
ETHAN R. PAGE
STELLA V. KAMM

ROGERS, KAMM & SHEA

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

(615) 320-0600



*RULE 31 MEDIATOR

November 10, 2017
Via Email & U.S. Mail

PARALEGAL STAFF:
KATHLEEN MARCOTTE
RENEE BROWN
LAURA BLUM
ZELMA CANTRELL
WHITNEY CANTRELL

Mr. James M. Hivner, Clerk
Re: Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 7
Tennessee Appellate Courts
401 7th Avenue, North
Nashville, TN 37219



RE: *Petition to Amend Rule 7 and Adopt the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE) No. ADM2017-02083*

May it Please the Court,

My name is Stella Kamm with the law firm of Rogers, Kamm & Shea I have been a licensed attorney in the State of Tennessee since November 8, 2016. I was admitted to the practice of law in Kentucky on October 23, 2017. Upon the request of Justice Cornelia A. Clark, I would like to formally comment on Tennessee's proposed adoption of the Uniform Bar Exam.

First, I would point out that while Tennessee has enacted special rules regarding allowing military spouses with law degrees and prior bar admissions to practice law in Tennessee, the same cannot be said for all of the other states in the union. Adopting the uniform bar exam would allow men and women who pass the bar exam in Tennessee and who are married to active duty military members to have the potential to be admitted before the bars in Washington State, Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming, Montana, Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Alabama, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. This would greatly improve the job security of military spouses who decided to make Tennessee their home and passed their first bar exam in our state. This cause is near and dear to my heart as I have spent a significant amount of time over the last few years at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois and have heard the stories of many military spouses who have struggled to retain gainful employment while their spouses are serving our county.

Secondly, if the concern is that applicants would not have knowledge of Tennessee law, I would encourage the Court to follow the example of its sister state of Kentucky. In Kentucky, applicants sit for six essays drafted by the board of Kentucky law examiners in the morning and then sit for the multistate essay exam (MEE) in the afternoon. While Kentucky still has not adopted the uniform bar exam entirely this shows it is possible to strike a balance between having applicants study for state specific rules study for general legal principles applicable in all jurisdictions.

FRANKLIN OFFICE
317 MAIN STREET SUITE 206
FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE 37064
(615) 224-6421

NASHVILLE OFFICE & MAILING ADDRESS
The Wind in the Willows Mansion
2205 STATE STREET
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37203-1850
FAX (615) 320-9933
WWW.HELENROGERSLAW.COM

Letter to Mr. James Hivner, Clerk
November 11, 2017
Page 2

Thirdly, I would like to draw to the Court's attention that Kentucky has instituted a rule that within twelve months following the date of admission to the bar all members with less than five years of experience in another jurisdiction participate in one of two new lawyer programs offered during the year following their admission. (**See attached documents for Summary of the Rule requiring attendance and the 2018 January New Lawyer Program Agenda**). The new lawyer program takes place at a hotel, so out of city residents have to pay for their hotel stays, but the continuing legal education hours are offered for free. I think this is an excellent idea, particularly in an era when many new lawyers are hanging their own shingles and are lacking proper supervision and mentorship in their first years of practicing law. I also think this is an excellent networking opportunity which allows young lawyers to spend two days together in a centralized location.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did remind the Court that our sister states of Missouri, where I attended the Washington University School of Law, and Kentucky, where I have just been admitted to the practice of law, have both adopted statewide electronic filing procedures. While this is not exactly on the topic of the Uniform Bar Exam, I would encourage the Court to push for Tennessee to join its sister states in the twenty-first century and speak to the Tennessee Bar Association, the Tennessee Trial Lawyers Association, the Lawyer's Association for Women, and any other legal organizations that might be willing to lobby for our state legislature to pass a budget that would allow for this technology to be implemented across the state so that we may better serve our clients.

I sincerely appreciate the Court for encouraging me to write this official comment and I strongly support the adoption of the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE) even though I have already had to go through the ordeal of sitting through two bar exams, which is the specific issue that the UBE is meant to address. While I clearly achieved my desired goal, I can attest that it is quite burdensome for an attorney to engage fully in the practice of law by day and at the same time to go home and study for a second bar exam by night. I was fortunate enough not to have to retake the multiple choice section of the bar exam or the ethics portion due to Kentucky's comity rules for admission. Nevertheless, it is not an experience I would wish on my worst enemy.

With best wishes I remain,

Very truly yours,



Stella V. Kamm

Enclosures (2)
Cc: The Military Spouse JD Network
P.O. Box 1175, Fort Myer, VA 22211.



New Lawyer Program

Enter search criteria

More in this Section... ▼

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General Requirement

- Within 12 months following the date of admission as set forth on the certificate of admission, each person admitted to membership to the Kentucky Bar Association shall complete the New Lawyer Program.
- The program is offered twice a year, in January or early February and in conjunction with the KBA Annual Convention in May or June.
- The program is free to members required to take it. Other attorneys may take the program at a cost of \$250.

Exemption Circumstances

- The member is admitted to practice in another jurisdiction for a minimum of five years.
 - Use [Form 9, Application for Exemption from Mandatory](#).
- The member has attended a mandatory new lawyer training of at least 12 credits, including 2 ethics credits, offered by the state bar in another jurisdiction and approved by the Director for CLE. Generally, a partial exemption only will be approved because the first day of the Kentucky NLP specifically concerns the practice of law in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Extension Circumstances

Hardship Extension

- Member demonstrates hardship or other good cause clearly warranting relief. Documentation is required. If approved, the member must complete the requirement as soon as reasonably practicable as determined by the Commission.
 - Use [Form 8A, Application for Extension of Time for Completion of NLP](#).

Non-Hardship Extensions

- Where the member fails to demonstrate hardship or other good cause clearly warranting relief, the member must pay a fee of \$250.00 and complete the requirement at the next regularly scheduled New Lawyer Program.
 - Use [Form 8A, Application for Extension of Time for Completion of NLP](#).
- Where the member resides out-of-state and not practicing law in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the member may apply for extensions in 1 year increments. It is the responsibility of the member to request annual renewal of this extension so long as he/she is not practicing law in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
 - Use [Form 10, Application for One Year Time Extension to Complete NLP](#).

[Upcoming New Lawyer Program and Registration](#)

[New Lawyer Program Materials/Archive](#)

Latest News	more	Calendar	more
11/8/2017 Casemaker Weekly - November 8th		11/15/2017 » 11/16/2017 2017 Kentucky Law Update (Paducah)	
11/1/2017 Casemaker Weekly - November 1st		12/12/2017 » 12/13/2017 2017 Kentucky Law Update (Lexington)	



Enter search criteria

2018 New Lawyer Program

Essential Fundamentals for the Professional and Ethical Practice of Law

1/25/2018 to 1/26/2018

at

Hyatt Regency Hotel

311 4th Street, Louisville, KY 40202

[Attendee Registration](#)

[Agenda](#)

[Parking](#)

[Hotel](#)

Attendee Registration

- Attendees are **required** to complete both scheduled days (Thursday and Friday) of programming in order to fulfill their New Lawyer Program requirement.
- There is no charge for attorneys attending this program to fulfill their New Lawyer Program requirements, pursuant to [SCR 3.640](#).

[Click here to register!](#)

Agenda

DAY ONE - THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2017

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. **REQUIRED: REGISTRATION/CHECK-IN**

8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. Program Introduction and Welcome from the KBA President

8:45 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. KBA: What We Do for You...

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. LMICK: Malpractice Insurance

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. *Break*

10:45 a.m. - 11:45 p.m. E-Filing Certification Training

11:45 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. *Lunch Program (provided)* - High Functioning Impairment: Identification, Ethical Duties and Solutions

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. You've Just Received a Bar Complaint: Now What?

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. The Ethics of Social Media

3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. *Break*

3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. Generational Issues in the Workplace

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. Better Not Call Saul: Professional Ethics Lessons from "Breaking Bad" and its Prequel

DAY TWO - FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2017

Track One

- 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Access to Justice: Defense of the Indigent
- 9:40 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. Opening a Law Office: Hanging Up a Shingle and Rainmaking
- 10:50 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. Civil Litigation: Becoming Your Own Investigator
- 11:50 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. *Lunch (not provided)*
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Practice of Civil Case from A to Z
- 2:10 p.m. – 3:10 p.m. Mediations: Nuts and Bolts
- 3:20 p.m. – 4:20 p.m. Ethical Dilemmas

TrackTwo

- 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Business Law
- 9:40 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. Stranger in a Strange Land: What to Do When Your State Court Case Has Been Dragged into Bankruptcy Court
- 10:50 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. Domestic Law
- 11:50 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. *Lunch (not provided)*
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Wills and Probate
- 2:10 p.m. – 3:10 p.m. District Court 101/Attorney's Duty to the Court
- 3:20 p.m. – 4:20 p.m. Prosecuting and Defending DUI Matters

Parking

Map, parking, location: <https://louisville.regency.hyatt.com/en/hotel/our-hotel/map-and-directions.html>

Hotel

Reservations: <https://aws.passkey.com/go/kbanewlawyerprogram>

Should additional reservation assistance be required, please call 1-888-421-1442. Please mention the Kentucky Bar Association's New Lawyer Program to make sure you receive the discounted reservation rate.

Latest News more Calendar more

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>11/8/2017
Casemaker Weekly -
November 8th</p> | <p>11/15/2017 » 11/16/2017
2017 Kentucky Law Update
(Paducah)</p> |
| <p>11/1/2017
Casemaker Weekly -
November 1st</p> | <p>12/12/2017 » 12/13/2017
2017 Kentucky Law Update
(Lexington)</p> |

1000 Commonwealth Blvd
 Louisville, KY 40202
 502.582.5644
 Fax: (502) 584-3121

Quick Links

appellatecourtclerk - ADM2017-02083, UBE

From: Kevin Wilson <kbwilson@kbwilsonlaw.com>
To: <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>
Date: 11/9/2017 4:01 PM
Subject: ADM2017-02083, UBE

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NOV - 9 2017

Clerk of the Courts
Rec'd By

Dear Clerk:

My comments are directed toward the recent action of the Tenn. Board of Law Examiners to request the Tenn. Supreme Court to approve Tennessee going to the UBE. I strongly endorse the adoption of the UBE. In addition to practicing law for 36 years I have also been a judge of a municipal court for 27 years. My practice crosses state lines in the normal course of events as I am a debt collection law firm with clients in multiple states. In some states I must register as a debt collection agency and meet their requirements. Other states do not require our firm to register as they have an exemption for lawyers. But as a debt collection law firm we are exposed to a claim of practicing without a license, although that has never been held by a court. Nevertheless, our client is a big healthcare corporation with facilities spread across the southeast, Midwest and middle Atlantic states. We have federal laws that apply to debt collection and also state laws and we are aware of those laws and attempt to follow them at all times. But in order to handle their business, we have to cover many states. Some of these states would require me to take the bar in order to practice debt collection law there, even though I am a lawyer in good standing and know the debt collections laws of their state intimately!

It would be amazing to be able to help this client with their countrywide debt collection issues without skating the edge of unauthorized practice. As their debt collector lawyer, they look to me for advise (which I can give them) but I have to be careful. The reality is that a great quantity of this goes on anyway due to the structure of our country and the businesses whose business is not limited by state boundaries and the law firms who serve those clients and have office in multiple states. My court is a few miles from the Georgia border and we handle traffic and misdemeanor cases. But if a Georgia lawyer comes up the road from Ringgold, he or she must associate a Georgia lawyer to handle it. People go back and forth between our two states on a daily basis for work and other activities and "their lawyer" may be from Georgia. But they would have to hire two lawyers to handle the case if they wanted their Georgia lawyer. I recently had a simple collection case in Georgia for a club I collect debts for. In order to file the case in the Magistrate Court I had to get a Georgia-licensed attorney to go with me. He also lives in Tennessee, knows virtually nothing about collection law, but I had to have him there in court with me, really as an expensive spectator!

I hope the Supreme Court will approve this and I look forward to the day when all of our neighbor states adopt it as well. Georgia, where I am in the process of being admitted on motion, requires 5 years of practice before you can apply.

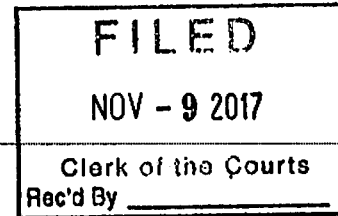
Kevin B. Wilson
Kevin B. Wilson Law Offices
2810 Walker Road, Suite 102
Chattanooga, TN 37421-1082
P: (423) 899-4424
F: (423) 892-4435

kbwilson@kbwilsonlaw.com

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appellatecourtclerk - ADM2017-02083 - Public Comment

From: Hannah Riffe <han.riffe@gmail.com>
To: <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>
Date: 11/9/2017 8:34 PM
Subject: ADM2017-02083 - Public Comment



To whom it may concern,

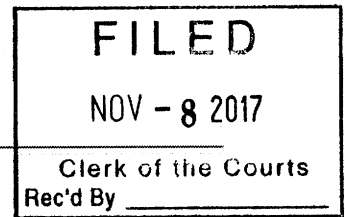
I urge the Tennessee Board of Law Examiners to adopt the UBE because doing so will not only provide Tennessee attorneys with a broad legal network but also pave a way to individualized professional and business opportunities. Given today's ever increasing mobile society, such adoption is vital to the well-being of our state's bar and, consequently, a necessity to public welfare.

Thank you and best,

Hannah Riffe

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

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)



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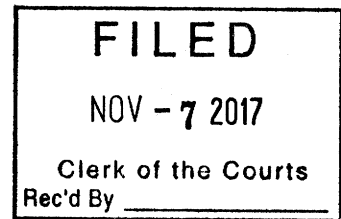
Belmont University College of Law '18
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill '13
stephanie.vlasis@pop.belmont.edu | stephanie.vlasis@gmail.com
[336.287.7548](tel:336.287.7548)

appellatecourtclerk - UBE adoption - ADM2017-02083

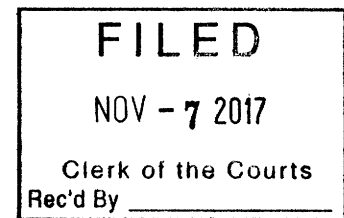
From: Hannah Williams <hannah.williams@pop.belmont.edu>
To: <appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov>
Date: 11/7/2017 10:39 AM
Subject: UBE adoption - ADM2017-02083

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)

FILED
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
michael.tackeff@gmail.com

appellatecourtclerk - Tennessee UBE adoption

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

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.

