

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 97- 9206

**ORDER AMENDING RULE II(a),
RULES GOVERNING ADMISSION TO THE BAR OF TEXAS**

IT IS ORDERED that Rule II(a), *Rules Governing Admission to the Bar of Texas*, is amended as follows:

(a) To be eligible for admission or reinstatement as a licensed attorney in Texas, the Applicant shall:

- (1) comply with all applicable requirements of these Rules;
- (2) be at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- (3) be of present good moral character and fitness;
- (4) have completed the law study required under these Rules, unless specifically exempted under the terms of Rule XIII;
- (5) qualify under one of the following categories:
 - (A) be a United States citizen;
 - (B) be a United States National;
 - (C) be an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence;
 - (D) be an alien otherwise authorized to work lawfully in the United States, lawfully admitted for temporary residence under 8 USC Sec. 1255;
 - (E) be admitted as a refugee under 8 USC Sec. 1157; or
 - (F) be granted asylum under 8 USC Sec. 1158.

~~If the Applicant does not qualify for a regular Texas law license due to an inability to meet the requirements of this Rule II(a)(5), the Applicant may be issued a Probationary License, upon meeting all other requirements of these rules, if the Applicant holds one or more of the following valid non-immigrant visa statuses entitling him or her lawfully to work in the United States: H-1B, TC, L-1, or F-1 Practical Training. A Probationary License issued under this rule shall be valid concurrently with such valid visa status, and, with the exception of an F-1 Practical Training visa status, shall entitle the Applicant to be employed only by the employer named in the petition of application through which such status was obtained.~~

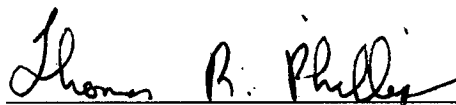
(6) have satisfactorily completed the Texas Bar Examination, unless exempted from the Bar Examination under Rule XIII (but in no event shall an Applicant for reinstatement be so exempted);

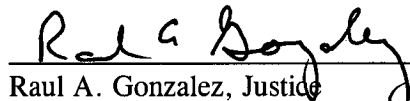
- Examination; and
- (7) have satisfactorily completed the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination; and
 - (8) be willing to take the oath required of attorneys in Texas;
 - (9) pay the appropriate licensing fee to the Clerk of Supreme Court of Texas; and
 - (10) enroll in the State Bar of Texas by filing an enrollment form and paying the appropriate fees and assessments due within the time specified in Article III, Sec. 2(A) of the State Bar Rules.


Subsection (b) of Rule II is unaffected by this order.

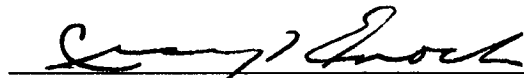
This order shall be effective immediately.


SIGNED AND ENTERED this 3rd day of December, 1997.


Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice

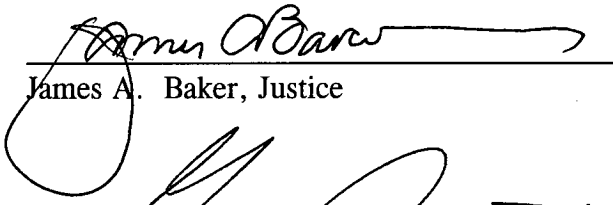

Raul A. Gonzalez, Justice


Nathan L. Hecht, Justice

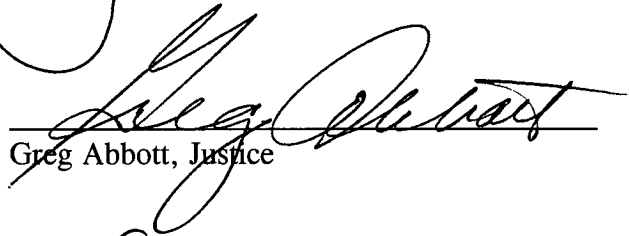

Craig T. Enoch, Justice


Rose Spector, Justice

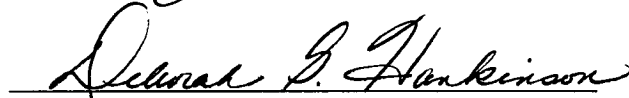

Priscilla R. Owen, Justice



James A. Baker, Justice



Greg Abbott, Justice



Deborah G. Hankinson, Justice