

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 18-9133

ORDER ADOPTING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TEXAS BAR EXAM TASK FORCE AND SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENTS

In its report of May 14, 2018, the Task Force on the Texas Bar Examination (“Task Force”) recommended that the Court adopt the Uniform Bar Examination (“UBE”) for individuals seeking admission to the Texas Bar. The Task Force’s recommendation was the result of a two-year study of the UBE, the current Texas Bar Examination, and other testing methodologies.

The UBE is an examination that results in a portable score transferrable to other UBE jurisdictions, and it consists of three of the four components currently tested on the Texas Bar Examination (the multistate bar examination, the multistate performance test, and essay questions). The UBE is distinguishable in that it does not test on Texas procedure and evidence or Texas essay subjects as the current Texas Bar Examination does.

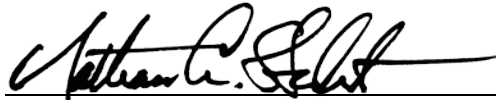
After consideration, the Court accepts the Task Force’s recommendation to adopt the Uniform Bar Exam in Texas. The Court anticipates this change will take effect beginning with the February 2021 exam administration and that necessary rule amendments will be adopted in the interim period.

The Court also accepts the Task Force’s recommendation that an appropriate Texas Law Course and Texas Law Examination be developed to ensure that applicants who wish to be admitted to the Texas Bar have sufficient knowledge of the important aspects of Texas law, ethics, and procedure. The format of the Texas Law Course and Texas Law Examination have not yet been determined, and the Court will continue to study this matter with guidance from the Texas Board of Law Examiners.

The Court invites public comment on this Order through December 8, 2018, before issuing a final order adopting the UBE and a supplemental Texas Law Course and Texas Law Examination. Written comments should be emailed to rulescomments@txcourts.gov.

The Court is grateful to the Task Force and the Board of Law Examiners for their time and thorough consideration and communication with the Court on this important subject.

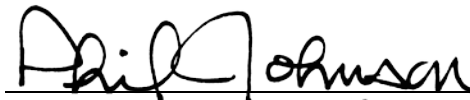
Dated: October 8, 2018.



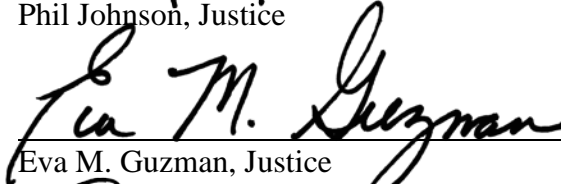
Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice



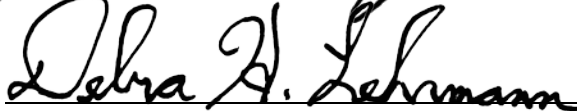
Paul W. Green, Justice



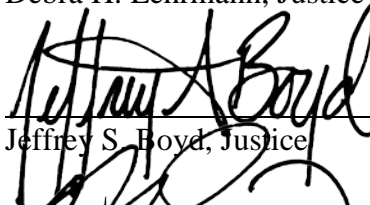
Phil Johnson, Justice



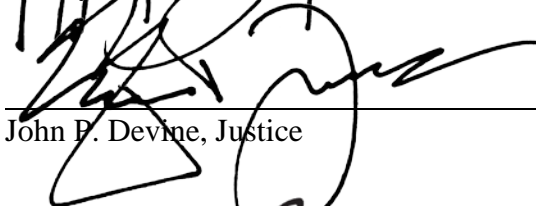
Eva M. Guzman, Justice



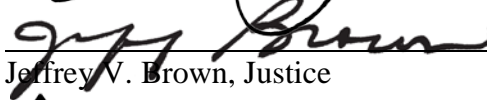
Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice



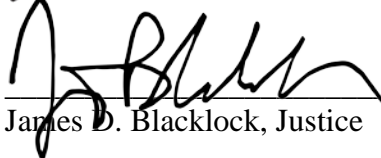
Jeffrey S. Boyd, Justice



John P. Devine, Justice



Jeffrey V. Brown, Justice



James D. Blacklock, Justice