IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 95-_9267

ORDER AMENDING RULES GOVERNING ADMISSION TO THE BAR OF TEXAS

ORDERED:

The Rules Governing Admission to the Bar of Texas are hereby amended in the following manner:

1. Rule IV(d)(2) is amended in the following manner:

"(2) An individual guilty of a felony under this rule is conclusively deemed not to have present good moral character and fitness and shall not be permitted to file a Declaration of Intention to Study Law or an Application for a period of five years after the completion of the sentence and/or period of probation."

2. Rule IV(e)(2) is amended by striking the existing language in its entirety and replacing it with the following language:

"(2) An individual disciplined for professional misconduct in the course of practicing law in any jurisdiction or an individual who resigned in lieu of disciplinary action ("disciplined individual") is deemed not to have present good moral character and fitness and is therefore ineligible to file an Application for Admission to the Texas Bar during the period of such discipline imposed by such jurisdiction, and in the case of disbarment or resignation in lieu of disciplinary action, until the disciplined individual has filed an application for reinstatement in the disciplining jurisdiction and obtained a final determination on that application."

"Notwithstanding the foregoing provision of this subsection(e)(2) and except as provided in Rule IV(d)(2), if the period of discipline imposed by another jurisdiction exceeds five years, the disciplined individual may file an Application after the expiration of five years from the date of imposition of such discipline, provided that (s)he has obtained a final determination on his/her application for reinstatement in the disciplining jurisdiction."

3. Rule VI(a) is amended in the following manner:

"(a) Every person who is beginning law study in an approved law school in Texas for the first time (an "entrant") and intends to apply for admission to the Bar of Texas shall, unless prohibited from filing by these Rules, file with the Board a Declaration of Intention to Study Law, on a form promulgated by the Board."

4. Rule IX(a) is amended in the following manner:

"(a) Each Every Applicant to take the Texas Bar Examination, whether or not such Applicant was required under Rule VI to file a Declaration, shall, unless prohibited from filing by these Rules, file an Application therefor with the Board as follows:"

5. Rule XI(h) is amended in the following manner:

"(h) Any applicant who has failed the examination may submit a written request, within thirty (30) days two weeks of the release of the examination results, for an Informal Review of the Applicant's performance on his/her failed parts of the immediately preceding examination (excluding the multistate portion). The form of such Informal Review shall be either oral or written, at the discretion of the examining members of the Board. An Applicant may request an Informal Review each time (s)he fails all or part of an examination."

6. Rule XV is amended by re-lettering existing subsections (b) - (k) as (c) - (l) and adding a new subsection (b) as follows:

"(b) If there are pending proceedings involving the Declarant or Applicant, the resolution of which could impact the determination of his/her character and fitness, the Board may exercise its discretion to defer the hearing until such time as the pending proceeding is resolved."

This order shall be effective immediately.

SIGNED AND ENTERED this 8 day of because, 1995

Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice

Raul A. Gonzalez, Justice

Jack Hightower, Justice

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Nathan L. Hecht, Justice

John Cornyn, Justise

Craig Enoch, Justice

Rose Spector, Justice

Priscilla Owen, Justice

Annu Baras

James A. Baker, Justice