



## NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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July 7, 2025

Hon. Michael J. Blee, J.A.D.  
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts  
Comments: Ad Hoc Committee on the "NextGen" Bar Examination  
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex / P.O. Box 037  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0037

Re: Report & Recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on the  
NextGen Bar Examination

Dear Judge Blee:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Judiciary's Report and  
Recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on the NextGen Bar Examination.  
We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on this important topic.

The New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSBA) commends Justice Jaynee  
LaVecchia for her leadership and the other members of the Ad Hoc Committee for  
conducting a thorough and comprehensive review of the issues surrounding  
adoption of the NextGen Bar Exam in New Jersey. As the NJSBA noted in  
comments submitted to the Ad Hoc Committee, we are in agreement with the  
ultimate recommendation that New Jersey adopt the NextGen exam as a  
replacement for the current bar exam format, beginning with the July 2028  
administration.

The NJSBA reviewed the information provided by the Committee, as well as  
information available on the National Conference of Bar Examiners' NextGen Bar  
Exam website. The NJSBA's support of the NextGen Bar Exam is premised on the  
recognition that it provides two distinct advantages: adequate testing for bar  
applicants coupled with providing the benefits of portability that allow for  
licensing in multiple jurisdictions. This is especially important given the evolution  
of the profession and nature of its work.

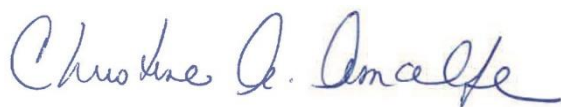
The Association is also in agreement with the Committee's recommendation to implement the new exam with the administration of the July 2028 test. This will coincide with the exam's implementation in New York and give law school professors adequate preparation time to instruct students appropriately.

Some concerns, however, remain. The NJSBA urges review of issues raised in previously submitted comments. Some NJSBA members who took the bar exam remotely during the pandemic raised a question about whether a written version of the exam would be available for those who experience technological difficulties or who otherwise might need such an accommodation. The Committee's report notes that the NextGen Bar Exam platform will offer assistive technologies and custom-created formats for those requiring testing accommodations. The NJSBA recommends the Judiciary be proactive in its preparations to address potential technological difficulties or other necessary accommodations. It should be prepared to accommodate a request for a written version of the exam prior to the July 2028 exam.

Additionally, the NJSBA suggests working with other states may be beneficial to allow attorneys who took the bar exam before any uniform exams were available to enjoy the same portability that new bar applicants enjoy. Lawyers who were admitted before the advent of the Uniform Bar Exam were limited in the number of jurisdictions where they could apply because of the time and resource requirements to take a bar exam in multiple jurisdictions. Recent bar applicants do not face those same limitations and some retroactive consideration for attorneys who did would be viewed favorably.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments. We hope they are helpful to the Judiciary as it considers the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Christine A. Amalfe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christine" and last name "Amalfe" clearly legible.

Christine A. Amalfe, Esq.  
President

cc: Norberto A. Garcia, Esq., NJSBA President-Elect  
Angela C. Scheck, NJSBA Executive Director