

**Filed**

Supreme Court of Guam, Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF GUAM

RE:) Supreme Court of Guam
) Administrative Order No. ADM24-002
RELATIVE TO THE ADOPTION)
OF THE NEXTGEN BAR)
EXAMINATION IN GUAM)
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WHEREAS, the Guam Board of Law Examiners administers the Guam Bar Examination twice annually using the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) Multistate Essay Exam (MEE), Multistate Performance Test (MPT), and Multistate Bar Exam (MBE) (*see* Guam Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law, adopted through Promulgation Order No. 06-007-01 (Oct. 26, 2006)); *see, e.g.*, Supreme Court Case Nos. PRM00-002, PRM01-003; and

WHEREAS, NCBE, after an intensive process involving research and collaboration among stakeholders, will launch a new version of the bar examination, known as the NextGen Bar Exam; and

WHEREAS, NCBE has announced that the current exam materials offered (namely the MEE, MPT, and MBE) will be offered concurrently with the NextGen Bar Exam between July 2026 and February 2028, and that, beginning with the July 2028 administration of the bar exam, the current exam materials will no longer be available for any jurisdiction to use as a test for law licensure; and

WHEREAS, the NextGen Bar Exam will test a broad range of foundational lawyering skills, using a focused set of clearly identified fundamental legal concepts and principles needed in today's practice of law; and

WHEREAS, the Guam Board of Law Examiners ("BOLE") has considered whether to adopt the NextGen Bar Exam and, if so, when to begin administering the NextGen Bar Exam for Guam; and

WHEREAS, BOLE met and unanimously voted to recommend to the Supreme Court the adoption of the NextGen Bar Exam and that the first administration of the NextGen Bar Exam in

Guam be in July 2026, transmitting its written *Recommendation of the Guam Board of Law Examiners on the Adoption of the National Conference of Bar Examiners' NextGen Bar Examination* to the Supreme Court on February 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court is satisfied with the recommendation of BOLE that the NextGen Bar Exam will provide a sound basis for assessing competence to enter the practice of law in Guam; and

WHEREAS, it will be necessary to amend provisions of the Guam Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law to account for the change from the current Guam Bar Exam to the NextGen Bar Exam materials, which amendments shall be completed at least nine months before the first administration of the NextGen Bar Exam in Guam.

NOW THEREFORE, under the authority to “govern ...the practice of law in Guam, including admission to practice law,” 48 U.S.C.A. § 1424-1(a)(7) (3), it is **ORDERED** that:

1. Guam shall adopt the NextGen Bar Exam; and
2. The first administration of the NextGen Bar Exam in Guam shall be in July 2026; and
3. The Supreme Court shall convene the Subcommittee on the Guam Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law to amend said Rules to account for the changes in test materials and procedures of the NextGen Bar Exam, which amendments shall be presented to the Supreme Court for promulgation by October 2025.

SO ORDERED this 2nd day of February, 2024.

/s/

F. PHILIP CARBULLIDO
Associate Justice

/s/

KATHERINE A. MARAMAN
Associate Justice

/s/

ROBERT J. TORRES
Chief Justice