

MARYLAND GENERAL BAR EXAMINATION
NOTICE TO SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES

Congratulations on passing the Maryland General Bar Exam! Please **carefully** review the following information, for which you are responsible:

AFFIRMATION: You **MUST complete and sign the Affirmation form and return it** to the State Board of Law Examiners (“SBLE”), 2011-F Commerce Park Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401, **within seven (7) days of date exam results are posted online**. You must **clearly print your entire address with zip code on the Affirmation, even if your address has not changed**. You must include your Social Security number. You will not be cleared for admission to the Bar until SBLE receives your Affirmation. We will inform the Clerk’s Office immediately upon receipt of any change in address and telephone number.

ONLINE ORIENTATION PROGRAM: Prior to taking the oath of admission, every person recommended for admission to the Maryland Bar must complete a mandatory online Orientation Program on legal professionalism, which is offered by Court of Appeals of Maryland. *See* Md. Rule 19-210. On the Monday following the date the exam results are released, you will receive email correspondence from SBLE containing a link and registration key to access the mandatory online Orientation Program and instructions on certifying your compliance to SBLE. You will not be cleared for admission until you complete the online Program and certify your compliance.

BAR ADMISSION CEREMONY: The Court of Appeals of Maryland will notify you of the date and time of your admissions ceremony. All ceremonies occur at the Court of Appeals of Maryland, Robert C. Murphy Courts of Appeal Building, Fourth Floor, 361 Rowe Boulevard, Annapolis, Maryland 21401. Bar admission ceremony details are handled by the Clerk of the Court of Appeals in Annapolis, *not* by SBLE. Further admission ceremony details are available through the link on SBLE’s web page (www.mdcourts.gov/ble) reporting the passers for this examination. The Court of Appeals requires your current address to mail your tickets to the Bar admission ceremony. You will not receive tickets to the Bar admission ceremony **until you have completed and returned the Affirmation form reporting your current address to SBLE, and your compliance with Md. Rule 19-210 is confirmed**. Should you be unable to appear for the formal admission ceremonies, you **must** make special arrangements with the Clerk of the Court of Appeals to be admitted on a later date. For special arrangements only, contact the Clerk’s Office at 410-260-1500.

NO EARLY ADMISSIONS: SBLE reports the results of the General Bar Examination to the Court of Appeals of Maryland (the admitting authority). The Court of Appeals issues an *Order Nisi* containing the names and addresses of all successful candidates, which expires thirty days after its issuance. No candidate can be admitted until after the expiration of the Order Nisi. *See* Md. Rule 19-211. You are not authorized to hold yourself out as an attorney or to practice law in Maryland until you have taken the prescribed oath in the Court of Appeals of Maryland.

24-MONTH RULE: A candidate who passes the Maryland Bar examination may not take the oath of admission to the Bar later than 24 months after the date the Court of Appeals ratifies the Board’s report for that examination, absent a waiver by SBLE or excusal by the Court of Appeals. Waivers are routinely granted for applicants remaining active in the character & fitness process. *See* Maryland Rule 19-211.

TRANSFERRING MBE SCORES: Maryland uses the MBE transfer services of the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE). Navigate to www.ncbex.org. Hover your cursor over “*NCBE Account*” at the top of the page, and select “Score Services.”

NAME CHANGE: If you officially change your name, for any reason prior to your admission, you **MUST** send SBLE a **certified copy** of the legal document which effected the change with an **original seal or stamp of the issuing authority**. (Examples: If you change your name by marriage, you must supply a **certified** copy of your Marriage Certificate. If you have divorced and have had your maiden name restored by the Court, you must supply a **certified** copy of the divorce order restoring your maiden name.)

UPDATE OF APPLICATION: All information on your application is of a continuing nature through the date of your admission. Any changes in the information on your application, including contact information, must be made in a signed writing and mailed to the SBLE at 2011-F Commerce Park Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401 or emailed as a scanned PDF to SBLE@mdcourts.gov.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: The full text of Maryland’s Bar Admission Rules is available online at www.mdcourts.gov/ble. You may contact SBLE’s administrative office for any other information by email at sble@mdcourts.gov.