

National Conference of Bar Examiners

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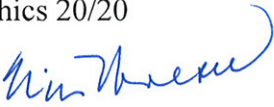
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 28, 2009

TO: Jamie S. Gorelick and Michael Traynor, Co-Chairs
ABA Commission on Ethics 20/20

FROM: Erica Moeser, President 
National Conference of Bar Examiners

RE: Comment on the Preliminary Issues Outline

Thank you for offering the National Conference of Bar Examiners the opportunity to comment on Ethics 20/20's Preliminary Issues Outline. One development that may be of interest to the Commission as it considers the matters contemplated under Section I(A) of the outline is the likely emergence of a common licensing examination for United States lawyers. This battery of three test components, designated the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE), offers the prospect of a universal licensing measure, the passing of which will enable lawyers to move more freely from state to state, that retains the value to the consumer of a rigorous, high-quality entry-level licensing hurdle to qualify the professionals to whom they entrust their legal problems.

All other major professions have already moved to common licensing examinations that are used in state-by-state regulatory systems. It is time for law to join the list.

To the extent that the Commission wishes to receive more information about the content and mechanics of the UBE at some point in the future, I will be happy to supply it.

Best wishes with your endeavor.

em/dk

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