

**SUPREME COURT OF WISCONSIN**

## NOTICE

This order is subject to further editing and modification. The final version will appear in the bound volume of the official reports.

No. 19-17

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**In the Matter of the Petition to Amend  
Supreme Court Rule (SCR) Chapter 40,  
Regarding Admission to the Bar**

**FILED****JUN 18, 2019**

Sheila T. Reiff  
Clerk of Supreme Court  
Madison, WI

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This matter comes before the Wisconsin Supreme Court upon the court's own motion. The rules governing admission to the bar, Supreme Court Rule (SCR) ch. 40, provide that an applicant seeking admission to the Wisconsin Bar is required to pay certain fees as part of the application process. Mindful of the costs of the bar admission process, the court has determined, after review and consultation with Jacquelynn B. Rothstein, Director, Board of Bar Examiners, to eliminate certain fees, namely, the \$100 admission fee, (SCR 40.14(3)(d)) and the \$25 fee required for change of name (SCR 40.14(3)(f)).<sup>1</sup> The elimination of these fees does not alter an

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<sup>1</sup> There is precedent for the court's motion to amend its own rules and for amending the Board of Bar Examiners' rules without a public hearing. See, e.g., S. Ct. Order 95-15, In the Matter of the Amendment of Supreme Court Rules: SCR 40.02(4)—Qualifications for Bar Admission (Nov. 3, 1995) (amending, on its own motion and without a public hearing, the requirements for taking the oath under SCR 40.15).

applicant's responsibility to complete the other requirements for admission, such as taking the oath or affirmation prescribed in SCR 40.15, subscribing the roll of attorneys, or properly maintaining the name under which an applicant will practice law in the event of a name change due to marriage, divorce, or other reason. See, e.g., Wis. Stat. § 757.30(4).

The court voted at a closed administrative rules conference on June 6, 2019, to approve these changes without written comment or a public hearing. Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that effective January 1, 2020, Supreme Court Rule 40.14(3) is amended as follows:

(3) The following fees are payable to the board:

- (a) Bar examination fee \$450
- (b) Late fee for bar examination \$200
- (c) Fee for application for admission on proof of practice elsewhere \$850
- (d) [Deleted]
- (e) Fee for reinstatement, readmission, late admission on diploma privilege or late enrollment in the bar \$200
- (f) [Deleted]
- (g) Fee for a character and fitness investigation under SCR 40.06(3m) \$210
- (h) Late fee for a character and fitness investigation under SCR 40.06(3m) \$200
- (i) Fee for admission for graduates of law schools in other nations \$850

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that notice of the above amendments be given by a single publication of a copy of this order in the official publications designated in SCR 80.01, including the official publishers' online databases, and on the Wisconsin court system's web site. The State Bar of Wisconsin shall provide notice of this order.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

BY THE COURT:

Sheila T. Reiff  
Clerk of Supreme Court

