FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 7, 2025

Delaware to Begin Using the NextGen Bar Exam in February 2028

The Delaware Supreme Court has approved the Delaware Board of Bar Examiners' recommendation to begin administering the NextGen bar exam in February 2028. NextGen will replace the Multistate Bar Exam ("MBE") and the Multistate Performance Tasks ("MPT") on the Delaware bar exam.

The MBE, MPT, and NextGen are developed by the National Conference of Bar Examiners ("NCBE"). NCBE has been developing NextGen since 2018 and will no longer offer the MBE and MPT after July 2028. Thirty-eight other jurisdictions have also announced plans to adopt NextGen. More information about NextGen may be found on the NCBE's website, at NextGen Bar Exam | NCBE.

The Delaware bar exam will still be administered over two full days. NextGen will be administered in one and a half days. NextGen will test applicants on a range of legal principles, including contract law, constitutional law, civil procedure, criminal law, evidence, real property, torts, and business associations. NextGen will include multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, and performance tasks to test a broad range of foundational skills, including legal research and writing, client counseling and advising, and negotiation and dispute resolution. The Delaware essay portion of the bar exam will include four essays and will be administered in half a day.

Delaware will continue to administer the bar exam in February and July each year. Until the adoption of NextGen, the Delaware bar exam will continue to consist of the MBE, two MPTs, and four Delaware essays.

If you have any questions, please contact the Board of Bar Examiners at <u>ARMS_BBE@delaware.gov</u>.