

From: Lee A Lockridge
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 9:13 PM
To: Broadcast_Law_3; Broadcast_Law_4
Subject: Updated Info re: La. Bar Exam

Dear Graduating Students:

Those of you registered for or interested in registering for the Louisiana Bar Exam may be interested in the following, which will be formalized tomorrow in an order of the Louisiana Supreme Court. (I was authorized this evening to let you know in advance, since it has now been approved by the Justices.)

I would like to preemptively say one thing, though: Please hold off on asking me all of the questions. I do not have all of the answers. I worked with others to provide input when it was requested, all to try to keep you safe this summer and keep your careers on track by avoiding months of delay. The Louisiana Supreme Court makes the decisions. The Committee on Bar Admissions (COBA) writes and administers the examination. COBA will soon provide some FAQs on its website, I feel sure, to assist all of you with your questions. I will also continue to keep you posted as I hear more.

Subject matter scope: The scope of the seven subjects to be tested will be narrowed as follows—the subject matter scope remains broad, but business entities and constitutional law are excluded.

Code I: Persons and family law, limited to marriage, divorce, separation, child support, alimony, regimes, and community property; and property law, limited to classification of things, ownership and accession, personal servitudes of usufruct and right of use, predial servitudes, co-ownership, possession, and acquisitive prescription.

Topics Excluded: Domicile, absent persons, filiation, tutorship, interdictions, habitation, occupancy, boundary actions, and building restrictions.

Code II: Intestate distribution, including representation of deceased persons, devolution of community and separate property, usufruct, acceptance and renunciation, forced heirship, reduction, and the disposable portion (including calculation of the mass of succession). Testate distribution, forms of testaments, revocation, interpretation of legacies, witnesses, testamentary accretion, and conjoint legacies. Requirements and effects of donations inter vivos, including form, capacity, and acceptance. Prohibited donations inter vivos and mortis causa and the effects thereof.

Topics Excluded: Incapacity, unworthiness, collation, adoption, and trusts.

Code III: Obligations, including conventional obligations or contracts; sale; lease; mortgages; liberative prescription.

Topics Excluded: Deposit, compromise, and security devices other than mortgages.

Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure: Any part of the Code of Civil Procedure governing general matters of procedure, but excluding procedural rules limited to special types of actions.

Topics Excluded: Procedures related to special actions.

Torts: All Civil Code Articles relating to negligent, intentional, and strict liability tort actions, including specifically Articles 2315 through and including 2324.1 and Articles 659 through and including 671 of the Louisiana Civil Code. The applicability or exclusivity of the Louisiana Workers' Compensation Statute. Products liability law and medical malpractice.

Topics Excluded: Public entity liability, merchant liability, conflicts of laws.

Criminal Law, Procedure and Evidence: Substantive criminal law and procedure as contained in the United States Constitution, the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the Louisiana Criminal Code, the Louisiana Code of Criminal Procedure and in the applicable jurisprudence. Louisiana evidence law (whether for criminal or civil actions) as contained in the Louisiana Evidence Code and in the applicable jurisprudence.

Topics Excluded: None.

Federal Jurisdiction and Procedure: Questions regarding the jurisdiction of federal courts, the federal judicial system, and the law governing proceedings in those courts. This includes the exercise of subject-matter and personal jurisdiction in federal courts, removal and remand, venue, the law applied in federal courts, and other relations between federal courts and the states, joinder of parties and claims, pleading requirements, motion practice, and, generally, the procedural rules applicable in the district courts under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Title 28 of the United States Code.

Topics Excluded: Service of process, discovery, abstention doctrines, injunctions, and appeals and appellate procedure.

Schedule: 50 minutes per exam (for a total of seven exams for five hours and fifty minutes), as follows:

8:00-8:50	Code 1
9:00-9:50	Code 2
10:00-10:50	Code 3
11:00-11:50	La. Code Civ. Proc.
11:50-1:00	Lunch
1:00-1:50	Torts
2:00-2:50	Criminal
3:00-3:50	Federal J&P

The schedule will be adjusted for those applicants granted accommodations for additional time.

Scoring: Each exam will be weighted equally and will have a maximum score of 100 points, for a total possible maximum score of 700 points. A passing score will be 500 points.

Format of each exam: The seven exams will be in essay format (similar to the essay format for prior exams). The content for the examination administered in July will be comparable, but not identical, to the content for the one in October.

Choosing your site and date: As I noted in our town hall on Monday, the Committee on Bar Admissions (COBA) will soon release a form through which a registered applicant will be able to submit a preference for a date and a city. Given the number of seats being made available in various locations, it seems unlikely examinees would not be able to take the exam in their first-choice cities, but that is just my estimate based on my predictions of how many will want to take the exam in various cities. I might be off in my estimates.

All my best,
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