

**District of Columbia  
Court of Appeals**



**ORDER**

**(FILED—April 10, 2020)**

By Order of the Chief Judge, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals will not administer the July 2020 Bar Exam due to the ongoing public health emergency arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Considering the uncertainty surrounding this public health emergency, the likelihood of continued or renewed prohibitions on large gatherings, and the potential need to modify plans quickly according to our city's directives aimed at protecting health and safety, we have determined the probability of our being able to successfully administer a bar exam in the District in July is low and cancellation at this time is the prudent course of action.

The Court will make an announcement regarding the feasibility of a fall exam by May 4, 2020.

The Court is mindful of both the need of recent law school graduates to be certified to practice law as soon as possible and our duty to protect the public by ensuring that persons licensed to practice law in the District are competent and possess the requisite character and fitness. Accordingly, the Court is exploring interim measures, including expanding our rules to allow law school graduates seeking bar admission in D.C. to practice here on a temporary basis should this pandemic adversely affect our regular admissions process for an extended period.

Applicants should check the [Committee on Admissions website](#) on May 4, 2020, for updates.