

ORIGINAL

FILED

10/02/2020

Bowen Greenwood  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: PR 06-0422

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OCT 02 2020

Bowen Greenwood  
Clerk of Supreme Court  
State of Montana

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN RE: JASON M. BURROWS,

Petitioner.

PETITION TO WAIVE MPRE  
REQUIREMENT IN APPLICATION  
FOR ADMISSION BY MOTION TO  
MONTANA STATE BAR

Jason M. Burrows, ("Petitioner"), petitions this Honorable Court to waive the three-year Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination ("MPRE") test requirement for admission into the State Bar of Montana by Motion. In support Petitioner states:

**BACKGROUND**

Petitioner is seeking admission to the State Bar of Montana by motion. He has completed all application requirements except for taking the MPRE. Petitioner was required to take the MPRE when originally seeking his license to practice law in 1997 in California. At the time Petitioner took the MPRE for California (1995), the State Bar of California required a passing score of 79. Petitioner passed the exam with a score of 122 and was admitted to the State Bar of California in 1997. At the time Petitioner took the MPRE for Nevada (1999), the State Bar of Nevada required a passing score of 85. Petitioner passed the exam with a score of 109 and was admitted to the State Bar of Nevada in 1999. Attached hereto collectively as Exhibit A are true and correct copies of the Examinee's Report of Scores that the Petitioner received in September 1995 (CA) and in April 1999 (NV) respectively from the NCBE.

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Since that time, Petitioner:

- Has been and is a member in good standing of the State Bar of California since 1997 and the State Bar of Nevada since 1999;
- Has practiced law as a civil litigator and trial lawyer for 22 years, without any ethical or disciplinary issues in any jurisdiction where licensed or where admitted *pro hac vice*.
- Has been a managing or co-managing attorney in law firms from 1999 to 2003 and from 2011 to the present, serving in leadership positions including, most recently, as a co-managing attorney in the firm of Hoefflin Burrows, ALC, (now Hoefflin & Associates, ALC) in Westlake Village, California;
- Has been on the Steering Committee for the CPA/Law Society (Ventura County, CA) (until the COVID-19 pandemic); and
- Was on the Fundraising Committee (2012) for the Ventura County Bar Association in support of the Volunteer Lawyer Services Program.

Ethical obligations are a core value of Petitioner's practice. While studying for and retaking the MPRE is certainly valuable in terms of focusing a practitioner's attention on the innumerable nuances and ethical traps that can arise, Petitioner hopes that his 22 years of practicing law ethically and without incident, coupled with a career worthy of recognition, would be an acceptable substitute under the circumstances. In that regard, Petitioner is aware that the State Bar of Montana is in discussions with this Court regarding the current requirements and near-term plans to petition the Court to revise the MPRE requirement to eliminate the testing and/or retesting requirement if the applicant has already taken and passed the MPRE for admission in another jurisdiction. Petitioner has met that requirement and, should this Court agree to implement this revised MPRE requirement, would be in compliance.

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### **REQUESTED RELIEF**

Petitioner respectfully requests that this Court waive the MPRE requirement and rely upon Petitioner's background and experience and previous passing of the MPRE for admission in another jurisdiction(s) as sufficient for admission to the Montana Bar.

Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September 2020.



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Jason M. Burrows  
1622 Swansea Pl.  
Westlake Village, CA 91361  
CA Bar No. 190159  
NV Bar No. 6920

## **EXHIBIT A**



**NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BAR EXAMINERS**  
MULTISTATE PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY EXAMINATION

**EXAMINEE'S REPORT OF SCORES**

Please review carefully all information printed below. If any data are incorrect or incomplete, contact the board of bar examiners in the jurisdiction to which your scores were reported.

| RAW<br>SCORE | SCALED<br>SCORE | TEST<br>DATE | SOCIAL SECURITY<br>NUMBER* |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| 41           | 122             | 08/11/95     | [REDACTED]                 |

\* If you did not indicate a Social Security number on your answer sheet, an identification number was assigned to your record for processing purposes.

BURROWS, JASON M  
3512 CARIBETH DR  
ENCINO, CA 91436

Your scores (shown above) were reported to the following jurisdiction as you requested in Block J of your answer sheet:

**CALIFORNIA**

This jurisdiction requires a minimum passing **scaled** score of:

79

Each jurisdiction has the authority to determine its own passing score. If the jurisdiction you chose does not list a passing score, check with the board of bar examiners in that state to determine the passing score.

**EXPLANATION OF SCORES**

Your **RAW SCORE** is the number of test questions that you answered correctly in the examination. The lowest possible raw score is 0; the highest is 50.

**SCALED SCORES** are standard scores that range from 50 (low) to 150 (high). The original mean (average) scaled score was established at 100. The conversion of raw scores to scaled scores involves a statistical process that adjusts for variations in difficulty of different forms of the examination so that any particular scaled score will represent the same level of knowledge from test to test. For instance, if this test were more difficult than previous forms, then your scaled score would be adjusted upward to account for this difference. If this test were easier than previous forms, then your scaled score would be adjusted downward to account for this difference. The purpose of these adjustments is to help ensure that no examinee is unfairly penalized (or rewarded) for taking a harder (or easier) form of the test.

**ADDITIONAL SCORE REPORT REQUESTS**

If, after the examination, you decide that you would like to have your scores sent to one or more boards of bar examiners in addition to the jurisdiction you indicated on your answer sheet, you may do so by writing to the address below. Your request should include your name, address, Social Security number, date of birth, test date, your signature, and each board of bar examiners you wish to receive a copy of your scores. Enclose \$15.00 for each board of bar examiners you request.

Duplicate score reports may also be requested by following this procedure.

**REQUESTS FOR RECHECKING OF ANSWER SHEETS**

A request to have your answer sheet rechecked must be made within three months of the original test date. The request should include your name, Social Security number, date of birth, test date, and your signature, and should be sent to the address below.





**NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BAR EXAMINERS**  
MULTISTATE PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY EXAMINATION

**EXAMINEE'S REPORT OF SCORES**

Please review carefully all information printed below. If any data are incorrect or incomplete, contact the board of bar examiners in the jurisdiction to which your scores were reported.

| RAW<br>SCORE | SCALED<br>SCORE | TEST<br>DATE | SOCIAL SECURITY<br>NUMBER* |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| 38           | 109             | 03/12/99     | [REDACTED]                 |

\* If you did not indicate a Social Security number on your answer sheet, an identification number was assigned to your record for processing purposes.

BURROWS, JASON M  
24208 GILMORE ST  
WEST HILLS, CA 91307

Your scores (shown above) were reported to the following jurisdiction as you requested in Block J of your answer sheet:

NEVADA

This jurisdiction requires a minimum passing **scaled** score of:

85

Each jurisdiction has the authority to determine its own passing score. If the jurisdiction you chose does not list a passing score, check with the board of bar examiners in that state to determine the passing score.

**EXPLANATION OF SCORES**

Your **RAW SCORE** is the number of test questions that you answered correctly in the examination. The lowest possible raw score is 0; the highest is 50.

**SCALED SCORES** are standard scores that range from 50 (low) to 150 (high). The original mean (average) scaled score was established at 100. The conversion of raw scores to scaled scores involves a statistical process that adjusts for variations in difficulty of different forms of the examination so that any particular scaled score will represent the same level of knowledge from test to test. For instance, if this test were more difficult than previous forms, then your scaled score would be adjusted upward to account for this difference. If this test were easier than previous forms, then your scaled score would be adjusted downward to account for this difference. The purpose of these adjustments is to help ensure that no examinee is unfairly penalized (or rewarded) for taking a harder (or easier) form of the test.

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