

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

**FLORIDA BOARD OF BAR EXAMINERS)
RE AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF THE)
SUPREME COURT RELATING TO)
ADMISSIONS TO THE BAR)**
_____)

Case No. SC20-____

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Appendix C

**Condensed Version of Proposed Rule Amendments with Reasons for Change
for Publication in The Florida Bar News**

Submitted by:

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**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF
THE SUPREME COURT RELATING TO ADMISSION TO THE BAR**

The Florida Board of Bar Examiners (“Board”) has filed a petition with the Supreme Court of Florida proposing amendments to Rules of the Supreme Court Relating to Admissions to the Bar 2-13.1 (eligibility to apply for admission for persons who were disbarred or resigned pending disciplinary proceedings) and 3-11 (disqualifying conduct). The petition states that the purpose of the amendment to Rule 2-13.1 is to delete obsolete language about disciplinary resignation. The petition also proposes amendments to Rules 3-11(j) and (k). The petition states that the amendments would update Rules 3-11(j) and (k) to include current medical terminology for substance use disorders and mental disorders. The petition also proposes adding a reference to disorders that “may impair the ability to practice law” to clarify the scope of the board’s character and fitness investigation.

Rule	Explanation
2-13.1 (Disbarment)	Amended to delete obsolete language about disciplinary resignation, which included a provision that allowed a lawyer who resigned pending discipline to wait three years before reapplying for admission, while a disbarred attorney would have to wait five years before reapplying. The Rules Regulating the Florida Bar no longer provide for disciplinary resignations.
3-11 (Disqualifying Conduct)	Amended to address update provisions (j) and (k) in Rule 3-11, which list matters that may require board investigation. The amendments use current medical terminology for mental disorders and substance use disorders. The amendments also add language to clarify that the board’s investigative focus is on disorders that may impair an applicant’s ability to meet the essential eligibility requirements for practicing law.