

STATE OF MINNESOTA
IN THE SUPREME COURT

CS-84-2139

ORDER

Order Addressing
Administration of Oath of
Admission by District
Court Judges

WHEREAS, applicants who have received a passing score on the Minnesota Bar Examination and who have received a favorable recommendation from the Minnesota Board of Law Examiners on character and fitness issues, are qualified to take the Oath of Admission to the Bar of Minnesota,

WHEREAS, certain applicants who are qualified may prefer not to participate in the admission ceremony held by the Supreme Court but choose to be sworn by an Appellate Courts or District Court Judge at some time subsequent to the Supreme Court's admission ceremony,

WHEREAS, applicants may request and receive from the Office of the Clerk of the Appellate Court the oath form and the schedule of registration fees due to the Clerk of the Appellate Courts upon filing of the Oath of Admission,

NOW THEREFORE, it is ordered that Judges of the Court of Appeals and of the District Court are hereby authorized to administer the Oath of Admission to those applicants who have been recommended both as to character and fitness and as to having received a passing score on the Minnesota Bar Examination, and who are in possession of the requisite oath form, at any time following the Minnesota Supreme Court admission ceremony.

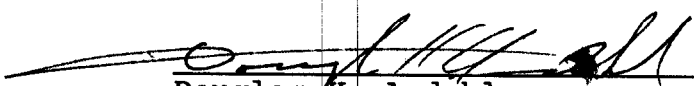
DATED September 20, 1988

BY THE COURT

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS

SEP 20 1988

FILED


Douglas K. Amdahl
Chief Justice

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Minnesota Supreme Court today adopted written standards which will be used in guiding the investigation of applicants to the Minnesota Bar.

The Minnesota Board of Law Examiners is a Court-appointed group of attorneys and lay people charged with the responsibility of administering both the Bar exam and conducting the character investigation of prospective attorneys. This character screening of bar applicants is designed both for the protection of the public and for the benefit of the justice system.

The new standards state generally that prospective attorneys should have a record of conduct which justifies the trust of clients, adversaries and courts.

In evaluating this record of conduct, the Board will investigate any applicant who has misconduct in his or her past. These standards define "cause for inquiry" to include acts of dishonesty, mis-representation, neglect of financial responsibility, and violation of Court orders, including child support orders. These standards also focus upon evidence of alcohol or drug abuse as a basis for denying admission.

In evaluating the derogatory information obtained on a particular applicant, the standards describe factors which may aid the Board in assessing the significance of the conduct. These factors include the applicant's age at the time of the conduct, evidence of rehabilitation since the conduct occurred, and the applicant's candor in the admissions process.

By adopting these standards the Court is approving the guideposts which the Board of Law Examiners has adopted for the admission process. Adoption of these standards also gives notice to applicants of the requirements for admission in Minnesota.

These standards were derived from similar standards adopted by the American Bar Association and recommended to state admission authorities as model standards.