

As listed under Addendum 1 (Policies and Procedures of the Board of Bar Examiners):

20. The Investigative Process. The burden of producing information always remains on the applicant. The applicant, upon making application for admission, authorizes the state bar, and its agency and representatives, to acquire from any source any information it may request concerning the applicant's professional, academic and moral character and fitness qualifications and shall consent to the disclosure of all such information pursuant to any request by the applicant's law school(s), any state bar, bar association, the National Conference of Bar Examiners or other admitting authority.

A. Authorization and Release. Each investigation is initiated by requiring the applicant to execute under oath a thorough application and to sign an authorization and release form that extends to the board and its subcommittees, the state bar, and its agency or representatives, and to any persons or institutions supplying information thereto.

B. Further Inquiry. The applicant may be asked to provide facts and/or explanations, in addition to the questions asked on the bar application. In order to verify the accuracy of the information provided in the application, or to obtain additional information, the committee may also contact the applicant's references, the applicant's employers, colleges and law schools, courts, medical providers, police agencies, credit agencies, and the military, if the applicant has served in the Armed Forces, or any other source deemed relevant. The committee can employ its own investigator and/or may use the investigative services of the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

The board, in its discretion, may refuse to permit an applicant whose application complies with the requirements of S.C.R. 52 to take the bar examination if the board has not completed its investigation into the applicant's moral character or fitness for admission. If the applicant subsequently receives final approval of the board, the applicant shall be permitted to take the bar examination next following such approval without submission of further fees or applications, except as the board, in its discretion may order.