

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF BAR OVERSEERS
OF THE SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT**

ORDER OF THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF BAR OVERSEERS

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and pursuant to the authority granted to the Board of Bar Overseers in S.J.C. Rule 4:01, § 5, the following Order will apply to all matters currently pending before the Board of Bar Overseers:

- 1) EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS: All evidentiary hearings scheduled to commence between March 16, 2020-April 30, 2020 are cancelled. Each hearing committee, in consultation with the parties and counsel, will reschedule hearings for dates after May 1, 2020. They are encouraged to discuss new dates as soon as feasible.
- 2) PRE-HEARING CONFERENCES AND MOTION HEARINGS: All in-person pre-hearing conferences and motion hearings scheduled between March 16, 2020-April 30, 2020 are cancelled. At the discretion of hearing chairs, in consultation with parties and counsel, pre-hearing conferences and motion hearings that had been scheduled to take place in-person may be done telephonically or by remote computer access. Pre-hearing conferences and motion hearings that currently are scheduled to take place by phone or remote access shall remain as scheduled.
- 3) WRITTEN FILINGS: The deadline for all written filings (such as without exception: answers, motions, briefs in opposition to motions, witness lists, exchanges and submissions of exhibits, proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, and appellate briefs) that are due between March 16, 2020-April 30, 2020, shall remain in place, subject to the right of any party or counsel to request an extension of time if

one is needed. Allowance of requests for extensions shall be within the discretion of the hearing chair or board, as appropriate. Reasonable requests for extensions of time shall be liberally granted.

SO ORDERED:



Jeffrey R. Martin, Chair
Board of Bar Overseers
March 16, 2020