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## **Florida Board of Bar Examiners Announces Comprehensive Analysis of the Practice of Law in Florida**

The Florida Board of Bar Examiners announces that it has begun a comprehensive analysis of the knowledge, skills, and abilities that are critical for newly-licensed Florida lawyers. The results of the study will assist the Board in its ongoing assessment of the Florida Bar Examination and inform any recommendations the Board may make to the Supreme Court of Florida about future format and content of the examination.

The Board is undertaking this study based on the recommendation of the board's independent test and measurement consultant, who stated, "the FBBE [should] consider conducting a statewide practice analysis to evaluate its current [exam] blueprint to ensure continued alignment to practice with respect to content and cognitive complexity...and to ensure that the examination and passing score are representative of the current expectations for entry level practitioners."

As part of the study, the board will assemble a special panel of Florida Bar members and others to meet with its practice analysis experts in May or June of this year. The panel will consist of practicing attorneys, members of the judiciary, and law school faculty who have experience working with newly-licensed lawyers. The board is accepting [applications](#) to become a member of the panel through **April 9, 2020**.

"This panel of subject matter experts is critical. We are looking for a diverse group of Florida Bar members from different areas of practice, different sizes of practice, and a broad range of practice experience working with newly-licensed lawyers. The panel will identify the knowledge, skills, and abilities that all newly-licensed Florida lawyers should have," states Board Chair David Reeves of Jacksonville.

The panel's work will lead to the development of a comprehensive survey instrument which will be distributed to the Bar's 100,000+ membership later this year. According to Board Vice Chair Jane Rose, of Tampa, "It will be crucial that members of The Florida Bar assist in this study by completing the survey. The more voices we hear, the more informed the decisions coming out of this study will be."

Chair Reeves explained, "As an agency of the Supreme Court of Florida, the Florida Board of Bar Examiners must ensure that each applicant recommended for admission to The Florida Bar has met the requirements of the rules regarding education and technical competence. A high-stakes test, such as the bar examination, requires vigilance to ensure that it tests what is necessary to demonstrate minimum technical competence now and in the foreseeable future."