

documents relating to the Declarant as the Board deems reasonable.

- (4) The Board may also require the Declarant to execute a consent form supplied by the Board, authorizing all persons, firms, officers, corporations, associations, organizations, and institutions to furnish to the Board or any of its authorized representatives, all relevant documents, records, or other information pertaining to the Declarant.
- (c) The timely filing deadline for such Declaration shall be as follows:
  - (1) Fall entrants, October 1;
  - (2) Regular spring entrants, May 1;
  - (3) Spring entrants at quarter-hour law schools, June 1;
  - (4) Summer entrants, September 15; and
  - (5) Entrants transferred from out-of-state schools, within 60 days of matriculation at a Texas law school.
- (d) Declarations filed with the Board after the foregoing timely filing deadlines will be accepted only upon payment of applicable late fees as set forth in Rule 18, so long as they are filed by the final filing deadline set out in Rule 9. However, regardless of the date a Declaration is filed, the Board shall have 270 days from the date the Declaration is filed to conduct its character and fitness investigation and notify the Declarant of the Board's determination, as provided in Rule 8.
- (e) Upon receipt of a Declaration, the Board shall note the filing date in its records. Absent a Declarant's written request to retain a Declaration, all Declarations will be destroyed five years after the date of filing if the Declarant has not applied to take the Texas Bar Examination or to transfer a Uniform Bar Examination score from another State.
- (f) The Board shall conduct a complete investigation of the moral character and fitness of the Declarant.

## **Rule 7**

### **Confidential Information**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 82.003, the following records of the Board of Law Examiners are exempt from disclosure under the Public Information Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 552:

- (a) examinations, including:
  - (1) current or potential future questions, including drafts and related research;
  - (2) model answers or scoring keys;
  - (3) the grades, results, or answers of an examinee;

- (4) raw scores or grader comments; and
  - (5) the name and contact information of any grader who is not a Board member; and
- (b) except as provided by Rule 15, moral character and fitness records and deliberations, including:
- (1) Declarations and Applications, including attachments;
  - (2) any documents resulting from the Board's moral character and fitness investigation of an Applicant; and
  - (3) minutes or recordings of Board meetings or hearings on an Applicant's moral character and fitness.

## **Rule 8**

### **Determination of Declarant Character and Fitness**

- (a) After completing its investigation, the Board shall determine whether, on all the documentation before it, the Board is satisfied that the Declarant possesses the good moral character and fitness necessary for admission to the Bar and shall advise the Declarant accordingly, no later than the 270th day after the date the Declaration and fees were filed with the Board. If the determination is that the Declarant does not have the requisite good moral character and fitness, such notice shall include:
- (1) a detailed analysis of the results of the investigation; and
  - (2) an objective list of actions, if any, which the Declarant may take to correct the deficiencies and to become qualified for admission to the Bar after completing all other requirements for admission.
- (b) A hearing may be set on any such adverse preliminary determination, in accordance with Rule 15.
- (c) If, after investigation, the Board determines that a Declarant:
- (1) may suffer from chemical dependency, the Board shall direct the Declarant to meet with representatives of the Bar's Lawyers Assistance Program or a similar program of the Bar, and may require that the Declarant submit to a treatment facility for evaluation.
  - (2) does suffer from chemical dependency, the Board shall assist the Declarant in working with the Bar's Lawyers Assistance Program or a similar program of the Bar to address the dependency.
- (d) Any preliminary determination that the Declarant possesses the good moral character and fitness necessary for admission to the Bar is issued on the condition