

**SUPREME COURT OF VERMONT  
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TO: Members of the Vermont Bar

FROM: Patricia Gabel, Esq., State Court Administrator

RE: Seventeenth Amendment to Administrative Order No. 49 – Declaration of Judicial Emergency and Changes to Court Procedures

DATE: November 24, 2020

For your information, please find:

**PROMULGATED RULE AMENDMENT**

[AO 49 Amendment - Declaration of Judicial Emergency and Changes to Court Procedures 11-24-20](#)

**This Order was promulgated on November 24, 2020, effective immediately.**

This order further amends A.O. 49, which declared a Judicial Emergency on March 16, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Paragraph 23 is added to expressly authorize the Board of Bar Examiners (BBE) to administer the February 2021 Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) by remote means. This standard UBE exam will be prepared by the NCBE and scored in the same manner as the UBE is usually scored for in-person administrations.

Paragraph 7(a) concerning access to court buildings is amended to clarify that judicial officers, judiciary employees, contractors, and authorized volunteers are permitted to enter courthouses.

The full Order and other updates regarding the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and court operations are available at [<https://www.vermontjudiciary.org/about-vermont-judiciary/covid-19-and-court-operations>]