

New York State Board of Law Examiners

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PRESS RELEASE **For release on May 5, 2009**

The New York State Board of Law Examiners announced today that grading has been completed for the February 2009 bar examination. Graduates of ABA-approved law schools taking the examination for the first time passed at the rate of 73.3%, while foreign-educated first-time candidates had a passing rate of 37.1%.

The Board examined 3,560 candidates in February, a record 44.1% of whom were foreign-educated. The passing rate for all candidates, including U.S. domestic-educated and foreign-educated candidates, both first-time and repeat takers, was 41.7%.

Candidates were given electronic notification of their examination results on Tuesday, May 5, 2009. A complete list of candidates passing the February 2009 bar examination will be made available to the public on the Board's website, at www.nybarexam.org, at 9:00 am on Wednesday, May 6, 2009. Successful candidates are certified for admission to the Appellate Division and must appear before the Committee on Character and Fitness appointed by the appropriate Appellate Division to be examined as to their character and fitness before being admitted to the bar. Candidates are not certified for admission until the Board receives proof that they have successfully completed the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination as required by the Rules of the New York State Court of Appeals for the Admission of Attorneys and Counselors at Law.

The Board congratulates the candidates who were successful on the February 2009 bar examination.