

## **Attachment A – August 2020**

### **Bar Controlled Issues**

1. The [CLER](#) and [BSCR](#) deadlines for February – November 2020 have been extended to December 31, 2020.
2. Payment extensions: Members who need to extend the time for paying annual fees due to undue hardship may elect to pay the mandatory portion of their fees by installments. They check the "pay by installments" box on the statement, which automatically splits the mandatory portion of the fees into three payments. Active members would pay \$88.33, \$88.33 and \$88.34 respectively. The election and the first installment must have been made by August 15. After the election has been made, The Florida Bar will send invoices for the other two installments in October and again in January. Paying by installments extends the deadline until February 1, 2021.
3. Waiver of all late and rush fees for CLE providers submitting COVID-related programs to The Florida Bar for CLE accreditation.
4. LegalFuel and various Bar sections have provided complimentary CLE programs related to practice during and post-COVID, teleworking/remote working, mental health and wellness associated with the crisis. The total number of these programs put on by sections and LegalFuel is unknown inasmuch as not all were recorded and made available after the live event. There are currently 10 section-produced courses on the Bar's [COVID resources webpage](#).
5. There have been approximately a dozen [LegalFuel-produced webinars or LegalFuel webinars](#) coordinated with approved member benefits providers which give COVID education and resources.
6. Benefits: Several member benefits providers offered additional discounts, additional services, or complimentary services during the height of the pandemic and several of those programs are still running with some of the additional promotions running through the end of 2020. The number of these has varied since mid-March when the COVID crisis first emerged. Some member benefits providers offered short-term additional discounts or incentives related to COVID, while others waived fees or provided complimentary subscriptions for a defined period of time. At one time, the Florida Bar had approximately 15 benefits providers (one fourth of the total number of providers) offering additional discounts or some other type of incentives to Bar members. Some of the discounts or incentives have expired, but while active, [they were listed on the website](#).
7. Member benefits providers have been asked to extend concessions and promotions beyond 2020.
8. The [Florida Free Legal Answers](#) online pro bono platform: The number of volunteers and questions from the public have significantly increased over the past several months. From February 2020 through July 2020, the number of participating attorneys increased from

857 to 902, while the number of questions from the public for the same time period increased from 256 to 409.

9. First cycle (March) Board certification examinations were postponed to September, 2020 and an online/virtual option has been added for those who had requested to take the exam via laptop.
10. Recertification application deadlines have been extended from May to November, 2020.
11. [LegalFuel](#) will continue to produce articles, podcasts, and webinars related to law firm and law office operations during and post-COVID.
12. Transition of certification grade review events from in-person to virtual.
13. Email reminder to members who haven't yet paid fees about payment options (*see ¶ 2. above*).