



CIVIL TRIAL LAW CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION SPECIFICATIONS



1. Purpose of the Examination

The examination is intended to test whether an applicant possesses the knowledge, skills, abilities, ethics, and judgments that are common to specialists in civil trial law and is also intended to be a valid and reliable measurement to justify the representation of special competence and professionalism that distinguishes a “Florida Bar Board Certified Lawyer.”

2. Examination Content

Topics that may be covered on the Civil Trial examination include:

A. Litigation Skills

- 1.1 Factual analysis;
- 1.2 Issue spotting;
- 1.3 Problem solving;
- 1.4 Cost benefits analysis of litigation;
- 1.5 Evaluation of the strength and weakness of a case;
- 1.6 Settlement strategy;
- 1.7 Strategies for persuasion;
- 1.8 Jury selection issues;
- 1.9 Strategies for the use of trial objections; and
- 1.10 Courtroom Techniques

B. Evidence

- 2.1 Florida Evidence Code and Florida Rules of Evidence and their application.

C. Ethics

- 3.1 Code of Professional Responsibility as it relates to situations encountered by the trial lawyer as well as the Oath of Attorney.

D. Civil Procedure

- 4.1 Florida Rules of Civil Procedure and its impact upon the litigation process.

3. Examination Format

The Civil Trial Board Certification Law Exam is made up of two sessions and consists of the following:

Session I:

- 1 Essay worth 38 points
- 1 Essay worth 6 points
- 30 Multiple Choice Questions worth 1 point each
- 6 Short Answer Questions worth 4 points each

Session II

- 4 Essays worth 6 points per question
- 1 Long Essay Question worth 32 Points
- 1 Short Answer Questions worth 6 points
- 4 Short Answer Questions worth 7 points each
- 4 Short Essay Questions worth 8 points each

The passing standard for this examination is 70%.

Examinees will be tested on law in effect as of December 31 of the year preceding the administration of the examination.

4. Suggested Study Materials

- Example questions posted on website
- Applicable constitutional, decisional, statutory and regulatory statutes

How to obtain Evidence Code (Florida Rules of Evidence):

- Go to Online Sunshine Link .
- Choose Title VII and click on Chapter 90.
- Click "View Entire Chapter".
- Print.

How to obtain Rules of Florida Rules of Civil Procedure:

- Go to search box on The Florida Bar website and enter "Florida Rules of Civil Procedure."
- Click on the link to the most recent one.
- When printing do not print the "Forms" which are towards the back of the document.