

**NEW YORK STATE
BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS**



**CONTENT OUTLINE FOR THE
NEW YORK STATE BAR EXAMINATION**

Updated May 2010

INTRODUCTION

The New York portion of the bar examination consists of five essay questions and 50 multiple choice questions. The general subject areas that may be tested are as follows:

- (1) business relationships including agency, business corporations, limited liability companies, partnerships and joint ventures;
- (2) civil practice and procedure (New York, except as noted);
- (3) conflict of laws;
- (4) New York and federal constitutional law;
- (5) contracts and contract remedies;
- (6) criminal law and procedure;
- (7) evidence;
- (8) matrimonial and family law;
- (9) professional responsibility;
- (10) real property;
- (11) torts and tort damages;
- (12) trusts, wills and estates; and
- (13) UCC Articles 2, 3 and 9.

The New York State Board of Law Examiners has created this content outline in an effort to provide information regarding the subject matter tested on the New York bar examination to law school students and bar candidates. This outline is intended to indicate, in summary fashion, the bar examination's potential scope of coverage. It is our hope that this outline will assist candidates in their preparation.

Some citations to statutes and court rules are included to assist a user of this outline, but the inclusion of a citation with any particular entry does not mean that the cited statute or court rule includes all of the relevant legal principles regarding that entry.

This outline will be modified periodically, as appropriate. The Board invites comments from legal educators, the practicing bar, bar associations and candidates regarding this outline and regarding the scope and coverage of the bar examination generally.

Comments may be sent to John McAlary, Executive Director, New York State Board of Law Examiners, Corporate Plaza - Building 3, 254 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany, NY 12203-5195, or to our dedicated email address - Outline.Comments@nybarexam.org.

The Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) is also administered as part of the New York bar examination. Subject matter outlines for the MBE are available on the website of the National Conference of Bar Examiners at <http://www.ncbex.org/multistate-tests/mbe/>.

BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS

Agency, Business Corporations, Limited Liability Companies, Partnerships and Joint Ventures

Agency

- I. Creation
 - A. Capacity of parties including minors, incompetents and license requirements
 - B. Formalities including consent, consideration and writing
- II. Special types
 - A. Real estate brokers
 - B. Employer/employee
 - C. Power of attorney
- III. Authority of Agent
 - A. Express
 - B. Implied
 - C. Apparent
 - D. Inherent
 - E. Ratification
- IV. Fiduciary Duties of Agent
 - A. Reasonable care
 - B. Loyalty
 - C. Obedience
- V. Duties of Principal
 - A. Compensation/reimbursement
 - B. Contractual
 - C. Cooperation
- VI. Remedies for Breach of Duty
 - A. Contractual
 - B. Tort
 - C. Accounting
 - D. Withholding of compensation
- VII. Liability of Principal and Agent to Third Parties
 - A. Disclosed principal
 - B. Undisclosed principal
- VIII. Term and Termination
 - A. Expiration of time and accomplishment of purpose
 - B. Revocation, renunciation and cancellation
 - C. Operation of law
 - D. Irrevocable agencies

Business Corporations

- I. Pre-incorporation Transactions
 - A. Promoters/Incorporators
 - B. Subscriptions for shares
 - C. Contracts with third parties

- II. Formation and Nature
 - A. Certificate of incorporation
 - B. Bylaws
 - C. Purposes and powers
 - D. Defense of ultra vires
 - E. Limited liability of shareholders including exception regarding wages of employees of corporation not publicly traded
 - F. Piercing the veil
 - G. De facto corporations

- III. Corporate Finance
 - A. Shares including par value, consideration and preferences
 - B. Dividends

- IV. Management and Control
 - A. Shareholders
 - 1. Meetings including notices and quorum
 - 2. Voting including eligibility, proxies, majority or more, action without meeting, cumulative and voting trusts or agreements
 - 3. Preemptive rights
 - 4. Inspection of books and records
 - 5. Derivative actions
 - B. Directors
 - 1. Number, election and removal
 - 2. Meetings including notices, quorum and phone participation
 - 3. Voting including majority or more and action without meeting
 - 4. Interested directors
 - 5. Loans to directors
 - C. Officers
 - 1. Election and removal
 - 2. Authority
 - D. Duties and liabilities of officers and directors
 - 1. Statutory liabilities of directors
 - 2. Liability on corporate obligations
 - 3. Fiduciary duties
 - a. Generally
 - b. Interested directors
 - c. Business judgment rule
 - d. Corporate opportunity doctrine
 - 4. Indemnification

- V. Close Corporations
 - A. Share transfer restrictions
 - B. Shareholder agreements
 - C. 20% or more minority shareholder rights

- VI. Structural and Other Major Changes
 - A. Amendment or change of certificate of incorporation
 - B. Mergers and consolidations
 - C. Corporate guarantees
 - D. Sale or other disposition of assets

- VII. Dissolution
 - A. Judicial
 - B. Voluntary
 - C. Effect
 - D. Distribution of assets

- VIII. Professional Service Corporations
 - A. Requirements
 - B. Professional relationships and liabilities

Limited Liability Companies

- I. Formation
 - A. Articles of organization
 - B. Conversion from partnership
 - C. Publication requirement

- II. Management
 - A. By members or managers
 - B. Operating agreement
 - C. Liability of members, managers and agents

- III. Members and Membership
 - A. Contributions
 - B. Distributions
 - C. Nature of membership interest
 - D. Transfers of membership interest
 - E. Withdrawal

- IV. Dissolution
 - A. Events causing dissolution
 - B. Judicial dissolution
 - C. Winding up and distribution of assets

- V. Mergers
 - A. With other limited liability companies
 - B. With other entities

- VI. Professional Service Limited Liability Companies
 - A. Requirements
 - B. Professional relationships and liabilities

Partnerships

- I. Creation of Partnerships
 - A. General partnerships
 - B. Limited partnerships
 - C. Limited liability partnerships

- II. The Authority, Liability and Interests of Partners
 - A. Authority to bind partnership and other partners
 - B. Liability of partners and procedural requirements
 - C. Liability of partnership and procedural requirements
 - D. Partner's fiduciary responsibilities
 - E. Assignment of partnership interests
 - F. Rights of successors, assignees and creditors of partnership
 - G. Partnership profits and losses
 - H. Management and control

- III. Dissolution
 - A. General partnerships, limited partnerships and limited liability partnerships
 - B. How dissolution is accomplished
 - C. Post dissolution operations, including winding up and termination
 - D. Rights of successors
 - E. Continuing liability of partners

Joint Ventures

- I. Creation

- II. Rights and Liabilities of Participants

- III. Distinguished from Partnerships

- IV. Termination

CIVIL PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE (New York, except as noted)

- I. Organization of New York's Court System and Subject Matter Jurisdiction of New York Courts

- II. Commencement of Action and Service of Process
 - A. Commencement by filing
 - B. Service of process
 - C. Amended and supplemental summons
 - D. Extension of time to serve

- III. Jurisdiction
 - A. Personal jurisdiction including long-arm jurisdiction
 - B. Subject matter jurisdiction
 - C. In rem jurisdiction

- IV. Venue and Forum Non Conveniens
 - A. Proper venue for various types of actions
 - B. Change of venue
 - C. Forum non conveniens

- V. Statute of Limitations
 - A. Statutes of limitations for various types of actions
 - B. Claims against municipalities (General Municipal Law §§ 50-e, 50-i)
 - C. Accrual of claims
 - D. Tolling
 - E. Contractual limitations provisions

- VI. Appearances and Pleadings
 - A. Demand for complaint
 - B. Notice of appearance
 - C. Complaint
 - D. Answer and affirmative defenses
 - E. Cross-claim and counterclaim
 - F. Reply
 - G. Bill of particulars
 - H. Amended and supplemental pleadings
 - I. Verification of pleadings

- VII. Parties
 - A. Joinder, non-joinder and misjoinder
 - B. Interpleader
 - C. Impleader/third-party practice
 - D. Infants, incompetents and decedents

- VIII. Joinder of Claims, Consolidation and Severance

- IX. Contribution, Indemnification and Limitations on Joint and Several Liability
 - A. Procedure for claiming contribution or indemnification
 - B. Entitlement to contribution and amount of contribution
 - C. Limitation on claims for contribution in workers' compensation context
 - D. Effect of release (General Obligations Law § 15-108)
 - E. Implied indemnification
 - F. Contractual indemnification
 - G. Limitation on liability of joint and several tortfeasors for non-economic loss

- X. Provisional Remedies
 - A. Temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, attachment, receivership and notice of pendency

- B. Grounds for each including notice and undertaking requirements
 - C. Who can obtain
- XI. Motions
- A. Pre-trial motions including motions addressed to face of pleadings, motions to dismiss and summary judgment motions
 - B. Trial motions including motions for judgment during trial, mistrial and new trial
 - C. Post-trial motions including motions for judgment and new trial
 - D. Standards for granting or denying motions
- XII. Disclosure
- A. Scope of disclosure
 - B. Discovery devices
 - C. Protective orders
 - D. Compelling disclosure and sanctions
 - E. Disclosure from nonparties
 - F. Pre-action disclosure
- XIII. Special Actions and Proceedings
- A. CPLR Article 4
 - B. CPLR Article 78
- XIV. Alternative Dispute Resolution
- A. Arbitration (CPLR Article 75)
 - B. Mediation
 - C. Other forms of alternative dispute resolution
- XV. Trials
- A. Jury and non-jury
 - B. Trial preference
 - C. Requests for jury charges
- XVI. Judgments
- A. Interest
 - B. Periodic payment
 - C. Reduction of awards due to recovery from collateral sources
 - D. Enforcement
 - E. Full faith and credit
 - F. Collateral estoppel and res judicata
 - G. Default
- XVII. Appeals
- A. Taking an appeal
 - B. As of right
 - C. By permission
 - D. Stay of proceedings to enforce order/judgment
- XVIII. Federal Practice and Procedure
- A. Original jurisdiction including federal question and diversity of citizenship

- B. Supplemental jurisdiction
- C. Removal and remand
- D. Venue
- E. Interpleader
- F. Habeas Corpus

CONFLICT OF LAWS

- I. Choice of Law Theories
 - A. Traditional vested rights/territorial approach
 - B. Contemporary policy approaches including the governmental interest analysis approach and the center of gravity approach
- II. Application in Specific Areas
 - A. Torts
 - B. Contracts
 - C. Property
 - D. Family law
 - E. Estates
- III. Defenses against Application of Foreign Law
 - A. Substantive and procedural dichotomies
 - B. Local public policy
 - C. Penal laws
- IV. Federal-State Conflicts
 - A. Federal supremacy
 - B. *Erie* doctrine
- V. Recognition and Enforcement of Sister State Judgments and Foreign Judgments
 - A. Full faith and credit
 - B. Comity

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW*

- I. Article I
 - A. Speech and debate clause
 - B. Ex post facto laws
 - C. Commerce clause
- II. First Amendment - Freedom of Religion, Press, Expression and Right of Assembly
- III. Fourth Amendment - Search and Seizure
- IV. Fifth Amendment
 - A. Double jeopardy
 - B. Takings clause
 - C. Due process

* Constitutional provisions in addition to the ones listed may be implicated by topics listed in other portions of this outline.

- D. Grand jury
 - E. Prohibition against self-incrimination
- V. Sixth Amendment
- A. Speedy and public trial
 - B. Right to confront witnesses
 - C. Other jury trial issues
- VI. Eighth Amendment - Prohibition against Cruel and Unusual Punishment
- VII. Fourteenth Amendment
- A. Equal protection
 - B. Due process
 - C. Privileges and immunities

CONTRACTS AND CONTRACT REMEDIES

- I. Formation and Enforceability of Contracts
- A. Offer and acceptance including meeting of the minds
 - B. Mutual mistake versus unilateral mistake
 - C. Indefiniteness including unenforceable agreements to agree
 - D. Impossibility
 - E. Fraud and misrepresentation
 - F. Undue influence and duress, confidential relationship of parties and ratification
 - G. Inability to consent including infancy and capacity
 - H. Unconscionability and illegality
 - I. Public policy limitations on enforceability of contracts (General Obligations Law §§ 5-322.1, 5-326)
 - J. Consideration including types and sufficiency
 - K. General Obligations Law provisions addressing consideration (§§ 5-1103, 5-1105, 5-1107, 5-1109, 5-1113, 5-1115)
 - L. Statutes of Frauds (General Obligations Law §§ 5-701, 5-703)
 - M. Third-party beneficiary contracts including intended versus incidental beneficiaries
 - N. Implied or quasi-contracts, unjust enrichment and detrimental reliance
 - O. Constructive trusts
- II. Interpretation of Contracts
- A. Clear versus ambiguous language
 - B. Extrinsic/parol evidence including when considered
 - C. Interpretation for court or jury
 - D. Custom and usage
 - E. Construe against drafter
- III. Breach
- A. Non-performance of contractual obligation
 - B. Excuses for non-performance including waiver and impossibility
 - C. Whether non-breaching party must tender
 - D. Anticipatory repudiation

- IV. Remedies
 - A. Damages within contemplation of parties
 - B. Causation, certainty and foreseeability of damages
 - C. Requirements for specific performance
 - D. Requirements for rescission or reformation
 - E. Equitable defenses
 - F. Liquidated damages
 - G. Restitution
 - H. Mitigation
 - I. Punitive damages

CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE

- I. General principles
 - A. Acts and omissions (Penal Law Article 15)
 - B. Mental culpability (Penal Law Article 15)
 - 1. Culpable mental states
 - 2. Strict liability
 - 3. Mistake of fact or law
 - C. Defenses related to mental culpability
 - 1. Mental disease or defect (Penal Law § 40.15)
 - 2. Extreme emotional disturbance (Penal Law §125.25[1][a])
 - 3. Intoxication (Penal Law § 15.25)
 - D. Affirmative and ordinary defenses
 - 1. Alibi (Criminal Procedure Law § 250.20)
 - 2. Entrapment (Penal Law § 40.05)
 - 3. Statute of limitations (Criminal Procedure Law § 30.10)
 - 4. Immunity (Criminal Procedure Law Article 50; Criminal Procedure Law § 190.40)
 - 5. Infancy (Penal Law § 30.00)
 - 6. Impossibility
 - 7. Duress (Penal Law § 40.00)
 - 8. Justification; defense of self or another (Penal Law Article 35)
 - 9. Renunciation (Penal Law § 40.10)
 - E. Accessorial liability (Penal Law Article 20, Criminal Procedure Law § 60.22)
 - F. Sufficiency of evidence including burdens of proof and persuasion
- II. Crimes
 - A. Assault and related offenses (Penal Law Article 120)
 - B. Homicide (Penal Law Article 125)
 - 1. Intentional murder
 - 2. Depraved indifference murder
 - 3. Felony murder
 - 4. Manslaughter
 - C. Rape and sexual assault (Penal Law Article 130)
 - D. Kidnapping (Penal Law Article 135)
 - E. Burglary (Penal Law Article 140)
 - F. Arson (Penal Law Article 150)
 - G. Larceny (Penal Law Article 155)
 - H. Robbery (Penal Law Article 160)

- I. Criminal possession of stolen property (Penal Law Article 165)
 - J. Forgery and related offenses (Penal Law Article 170)
 - K. Criminal sale/possession of a controlled substance (Penal Law Article 220)
 - L. Disorderly conduct, harassment and criminal nuisance (Penal Law Article 240)
 - M. Eavesdropping (Penal Law Article 250)
 - N. Offenses against children, the disabled and the elderly (Penal Law Article 260)
 - O. Criminal possession of a weapon (Penal Law Article 265)
 - P. Vehicular offenses (Penal Law Articles 120, 125; Vehicle and Traffic Law Article 31)
 - Q. Anticipatory offenses
 - 1. Criminal Solicitation (Penal Law Article 100)
 - 2. Conspiracy (Penal Law Article 105)
 - 3. Attempt to commit a crime (Penal Law Article 110)
 - 4. Criminal facilitation (Penal Law Article 115)
 - R. Lesser included offenses (Criminal Procedure Law §§ 1.20[37], 300.50)
- III. United States and New York Constitutional Protections
- A. Detention and arrest
 - B. Search and seizure
 - C. Warrants
 - 1. Arrest (Criminal Procedure Law Article 120)
 - 2. Search (Criminal Procedure Law Article 690)
 - D. Right to counsel; ineffective assistance of counsel
 - E. Confessions and privilege against self-incrimination
 - 1. Right to counsel; indelible attachment
 - 2. Right to remain silent
 - 3. Miranda
 - 4. Voluntariness
 - 5. Right to confront witness
 - F. Police-arranged identification procedures
 - 1. Photographic identification
 - 2. Corporeal identification
 - 3. Independent basis
 - G. Speedy trial guarantees
 - H. Due process, double jeopardy
- IV. Proceedings upon the Filing of an Accusatory Instrument
- A. Grand jury proceedings (Criminal Procedure Law Article 190)
 - B. Pre-trial proceedings
 - 1. Indictments and other accusatory instruments (Criminal Procedure Law Article 200)
 - 2. Arraignment (Criminal Procedure Law § 170.10; § 210.15)
 - 3. Discovery and Disclosure (Criminal Procedure Law Article 240)
 - C. Motions and hearings
 - 1. Motions to dismiss or reduce indictment (Criminal Procedure Law § 210.20 et seq.)
 - 2. Exclusion of evidence (Criminal Procedure Law Article 710)
 - a. Tangible property
 - b. Statements
 - c. Identification
 - d. Uncharged crimes and prior bad acts
 - D. Pleas (Criminal Procedure Law Article 220)

- E. Trials (Criminal Procedure Law Articles 260; 270; 280; 300)
- F. Post-trial proceedings
 - 1. Sentence (Penal Law Articles 55-85)
 - 2. Motions (Criminal Procedure Law Articles 330; 440)
 - 3. Appeal (Criminal Procedure Articles 450-470)

EVIDENCE

- I. Presentation of Evidence
 - A. Introduction of evidence
 - 1. Requirement of personal knowledge
 - 2. Refreshing recollection
 - 3. Objections and offers of proof
 - 4. Lay opinions versus expert opinions
 - 5. Competency of witnesses; Dead Man's Statute
 - 6. Judicial notice
 - 7. Roles of judge and jury
 - 8. Limited admissibility
 - B. Presumptions
 - C. Impeachment, Contradiction and Rehabilitation
 - 1. Inconsistent statements and conduct
 - 2. Bias and interest
 - 3. Conviction of crime
 - 4. Specific instances of conduct
 - 5. Character for truthfulness
 - 6. Ability to observe, remember or relate accurately
 - D. Proceedings to which evidence rules apply
- II. Relevancy and Reasons for Excluding Relevant Evidence
 - A. Probative value
 - 1. Relevancy
 - 2. Exclusion for unfair prejudice, confusion or waste of time
 - B. Authentication and identification
 - C. Character and related concepts
 - 1. Admissibility of character
 - 2. Methods of proving character
 - 3. Habit and routine practice
 - 4. Other crimes, acts, transactions and events
 - D. Expert testimony and scientific evidence
 - E. Real or demonstrative evidence including experimental evidence
 - F. Writings, recordings and photographs
- III. Privileges and Other Policy Exclusions
 - A. Spousal immunity and marital communications
 - B. Attorney-client and work product
 - C. Physician/psychologist-patient
 - D. Self-incrimination
 - E. Clergy and other privileges
 - F. Insurance coverage

- G. Remedial measures
 - H. Compromise, payment of medical expenses, plea negotiations and payment by joint tortfeasors
- IV. Hearsay and Circumstances of its Admissibility
- A. Definition of hearsay
 - B. Admissions
 - C. Present sense impressions and excited utterances
 - D. Statements of mental, emotional or physical condition
 - E. Statements for purposes of medical diagnosis and treatment
 - F. Past recollection recorded
 - G. Business records
 - H. Public records and reports
 - I. Former testimony including depositions
 - J. Statements against interest
 - K. Dying declarations
 - L. Other exceptions to the hearsay rule

MATRIMONIAL AND FAMILY LAW

- I. Getting Married
- A. Limitations on who may marry
 - B. Recognition of common law marriage and same sex marriage
 - C. Antenuptual and postnuptual contracts (Domestic Relations Law § 236; General Obligations Law § 3-303)
- II. Filiation Proceedings
- A. Presumption of legitimacy
 - B. Establishing paternity
 - C. Doctrine of equitable estoppel in paternity
- III. Abuse and Neglect
- A. Family offenses and child protective proceedings
 - B. Termination of parental rights
 - C. Juvenile delinquency and persons in need of supervision
- IV. Adoption
- A. Who may adopt
 - B. Who may be adopted
 - C. Required consents including revocation
 - D. Surrogate parenting contracts
- V. Matrimonial Actions
- A. Separation agreements (Domestic Relations Law § 236)
 - B. Grounds and defenses (Domestic Relations Law §§ 170, 200)
 - C. Jurisdiction over defendant (CPLR 301)
 - D. Durational residency requirements (Domestic Relations Law § 230)
 - E. Pleadings and service of process
 - F. Mediation and other alternative means of dispute resolution

- VI. Child Custody (Domestic Relations Law § 240)
 - A. Best interest of child standard
 - B. Visitation rights of parents and others
 - C. Types of custodial arrangements
 - D. Enforcement
 - E. Modification of custody
- VII. Equitable Distribution (Domestic Relations Law § 236)
 - A. Separate property
 - B. Marital property
- VIII. Support
 - A. Spousal maintenance (Domestic Relations Law § 236)
 - B. Child Support Standards Act (Domestic Relations Law § 240)
 - C. Modification and enforcement of awards and agreements

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

- I. The Lawyer-Client Relationship
 - A. Scope of representation and allocation of authority between client and lawyer (22 NYCRR 1200.0, Rules of Professional Conduct [hereinafter RPC], Rule 1.2)
 - B. Independent professional judgment (RPC Rule 5.4[c])
 - C. Communication with client (RPC Rule 1.4)
 - D. Organization as client (RPC Rule 1.13)
 - E. Client with diminished capacity (RPC Rule 1.14)
 - F. Declining relationship (RPC Rule 1.16[a])
 - G. Mediation of lawyer-client disputes (22 NYCRR Part 1220)
 - H. Withdrawal (RPC Rule 1.16[b] – [e])
 - I. Sale of law practice (RPC Rule 1.7)
- II. Privilege and Confidentiality
 - A. Lawyer-client privilege and the work product doctrine
 - B. Professional obligation of confidentiality (RPC Rule 1.6[a], [c])
 - C. Client authorized disclosure (RPC Rule 1.6[a])
 - D. Exceptions to confidentiality (RPC Rule 1.6[b])
 - E. Duties to prospective clients (RPC Rule 1.18)
- III. Conflicts of Interest
 - A. Current clients (RPC Rules 1.7; 1.8[b] – [h])
 - B. Business transactions with clients (RPC Rule 1.8[a])
 - C. Acquiring an interest in litigation (RPC Rule 1.8[i])
 - D. Sexual relations with clients (RPC Rule 1.8[j], [k])
 - E. Former clients (RPC Rule 1.9)
 - F. Imputed disqualification (RPC Rule 1.10)
 - G. Former and current government officers and employees (RPC Rule 1.11)
 - H. Former judges, arbitrators, mediators or other third-party neutrals (RPC Rule 1.12)

- IV. Client's Rights, Retainer Agreements, and Fees
 - A. Statement of client's rights, engagement letters and retainer agreements (RPC Rule 1.5[b], [e]; 22 NYCRR Parts 1210, 1215 and 1400)
 - B. Excessive fees (RPC Rule 1.5[a])
 - C. Contingent fees (RPC Rule 1.5[c])
 - D. Prohibited fees (RPC Rule 1.5[d])
 - E. Fee disputes (RPC Rule 1.5[f]; 22 NYCRR Parts 137 and 1230)
 - F. Division of fees between lawyers (RPC Rule 1.5[g], [h])
 - G. Fee division with non-lawyer (RPC Rules 5.4[a]; 5.8[a]; 7.2[a])

- V. Safeguarding Property and Funds of Clients and Others
 - A. Prohibition against commingling and misappropriation (RPC Rule 1.15[a])
 - B. Separate accounts (RPC Rule 1.15[b]; Judiciary Law § 497; 22 NYCRR Part 1300)
 - C. Notifying of receipt, safekeeping, rendering accounts, and delivery of property (RPC Rule 1.15[c])
 - D. Bookkeeping and authorized signatories (RPC Rule 1.15[d], [e], [g] – [j])
 - E. Missing clients (RPC Rule 1.15[f])

- VI. Communication about Legal Services
 - A. Advertising (RPC Rule 7.1)
 - B. Referrals (RPC Rule 7.2)
 - C. Solicitation (RPC Rules 7.3; 4.5)
 - D. Identification of practice and specialty (RPC Rule 7.4)
 - E. Professional notices, letterhead and signs (RPC Rule 7.5)

- VII. Interaction with Third-persons
 - A. Truthfulness (RPC Rule 4.1)
 - B. Communication with represented person (RPC Rule 4.2)
 - C. Communication with unrepresented person (RPC Rule 4.3)
 - D. Respect for rights of third-persons (RPC Rule 4.4)
 - E. Statements about judicial officers and candidates (RPC Rule 8.2[a])

- VIII. Litigation
 - A. Non-meritorious claims and contentions (RPC Rule 3.1)
 - B. Delay of litigation (RPC Rule 3.2)
 - C. Conduct before a tribunal (RPC Rule 3.3)
 - D. Fairness to opposing party and counsel (RPC Rule 3.4)
 - E. Maintaining impartiality of tribunal and jurors (RPC Rule 3.5)
 - F. Trial publicity (RPC Rule 3.6)
 - G. Lawyer as witness (RPC Rule 3.7)

- IX. Regulation of the Legal Profession
 - A. Admission to the profession (Judiciary Law § 90; RPC Rule 8.1)
 - B. Misconduct and discipline generally (Judiciary Law § 90; RPC Rules 8.4; 8.5)
 - C. Responsibilities of law firms, partners, managers and supervisory lawyers (RPC Rule 5.1)
 - D. Responsibilities of subordinate lawyers (RPC Rule 5.2)
 - E. Responsibility for conduct of non-lawyer (RPC Rule 5.3)
 - F. Reporting professional misconduct (RPC Rule 8.3)
 - G. Unauthorized practice of law (RPC Rule 5.5)

- H. Nonlegal services and multi-disciplinary practice (RPC Rules 5.7; 5.8; 5.4[b], [d]; 22 NYCRR Part 1205)
 - I. Restrictions on right to practice (RPC Rule 5.6)
- X. Competence, Legal Malpractice and Other Civil Liability
- A. Competence (RPC Rule 1.1)
 - B. Continuing Legal Education (22 NYCRR Part 1500)
 - C. Registration of attorneys (22 NYCRR Part 118)
 - D. Diligence (RPC Rule 1.3)
 - E. Civil liability including malpractice
 - F. Limiting liability for malpractice (RPC Rule 1.8[h])
- XI. Different Roles of the Lawyer
- A. Pro bono services (RPC Rules 6.1; 6.5)
 - B. Advisor, evaluator, third-party neutral, advocate in non-adjudicative matters (RPC Rules 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 3.9)
 - C. Judicial officers and candidates (RPC Rule 8.2[b])
 - D. Prosecutors and other government lawyers (RPC Rule 3.8)
 - E. Legal services organization (RPC Rule 6.3)
 - F. Law reform activities (RPC Rule 6.4)

REAL PROPERTY

- I. Ownership
- A. Present estates including fee simple and life estates
 - B. Cotenancies including tenancy in common, joint tenancy, tenancy by the entirety and partition
 - C. Future interests including possibility of reverter, reversion, right of reacquisition and remainder
 - D. Landlord and tenant including types of tenancies, assignment, sublease, warranty of habitability, holdovers, breach, remedies and summary proceedings
 - E. Rule against perpetuities and restraints on alienation
- II. Rights in Land
- A. Easements by grant, prescription or implication
 - B. Licenses
 - C. Restrictive covenants
 - D. Riparian rights
- III. Real Property Contracts including Purchase Contracts, Land Contracts, Options and First Refusals
- A. Creation and construction including Statute of Frauds, essential terms and implied terms
 - B. Performance including fitness and suitability of premises, marketable title and risk of loss
 - C. Breach and remedies
- IV. Real Property Mortgages
- A. Transfer by mortgagor
 - B. Assignment by mortgagee
 - C. Foreclosure
- V. Title
- A. Conveyance by deed including warranties

- B. Adverse possession
 - C. Priorities and recording act
- VI Adjoining Owners
- A. Support
 - B. Party walls
 - C. Encroachments
 - D. Light, air and view
 - E. Boundaries

TORTS AND TORT DAMAGES

- I. Intentional Torts
 - A. Prima facie case including act, intent, causation, actual damages and whether or not actual damages are required
 - B. Harms to the person including assault, battery, false imprisonment and intentional infliction of emotional distress
 - C. Harms to property interests including trespass to land and chattels and conversion
 - D. Defenses to claims for physical harm including consent, privileges and immunities
- II. Negligence
 - A. Prima facie case including duty, breach, causation and damages
 - B. Duty including failure to act, unforeseeable plaintiffs and obligations to control the conduct of third parties
 - C. Standard of care including the reasonably prudent person and statutory rules
 - D. Problems relating to proof of fault including res ipsa loquitur
 - E. Problems relating to causation including substantial factor, remote or superseding causation, multiple causation and apportionment of responsibility among multiple tortfeasors including joint and several liability
 - F. Limitations on liability and special rules of liability including claims against owners and occupiers of land, workers' compensation claims, claims for mental distress, pure economic loss and wrongful death
 - G. Liability for acts of others including employees and other agents, respondeat superior, independent contractors and non-delegable duties
 - H. Defenses including comparative negligence and assumption of risk
- III. Strict Liability including Claims Arising from Abnormally Dangerous Activities and Claims by Construction Workers against Owners and Contractors (Labor Law § 240) and Defenses
- IV. Products Liability including Claims against Manufacturers and Others Based on Defects in Manufacture, Design and Warning and Defenses
- V. Other Torts
 - A. Premises liability including duty of reasonable care
 - B. Attractive nuisance and defenses
 - C. Defamation and invasion of privacy including defenses and constitutional limitations
 - D. Misrepresentations and defenses
 - E. Intentional interference with business relations and defenses

- F. Prima facie tort
 - G. Liability under the Dram Shop Act
- VI. Statutory “No-Fault” (Insurance Law §§ 5101-5109)
- A. Purpose
 - B. Basic economic loss
 - C. Serious injury determination
 - D. Entitlement to and exclusions from coverage for first-party benefits
 - E. Availability of action for non-economic loss
 - F. Availability of action for economic loss in excess of basic economic loss
- VII. Municipal Tort Liability
- A. Proprietary versus governmental functions
 - B. Special relationship/special duty
 - C. Notice of claim requirement (General Municipal Law § 50-e)

TRUSTS, WILLS AND ESTATES

Decedents’ Estates

- I. Intestate Succession (Estates, Powers and Trusts Law [hereinafter EPTL] § 4-1.1)
- A. Share of the surviving spouse
 - B. Share of adopted children, step-children, children born out of wedlock (EPTL 4-1.2) and remote descendants
 - C. Share of ancestors and collaterals
- II. Wills
- A. Execution requirements (EPTL 3-2.1, 3-2.2)
 - B. Joint wills
 - C. Codicils (EPTL 3-2.1)
 - D. Proof of lost or destroyed will (Surrogate’s Court Procedure Act § 1407)
 - E. Incorporation by reference
 - F. Facts of independent significance
 - G. Revocation (EPTL 3-4.1)
 - 1. Dependent relative revocation (EPTL 3-4.6)
 - 2. Revocation due to changed circumstances including marriage, divorce and after-born children (EPTL 5-1.3, 5-1.4, 5-3.2)
 - 3. Revocation by physical act
 - 4. Partial revocation
 - H. Revival (EPTL 3-4.6)
 - I. Contractual wills
 - J. Construction problems
 - 1. Lapsed legacies (EPTL 3-3.3)
 - 2. Ademption (EPTL 3-4.3, 3-4.5)
 - 3. Accretions
 - 4. Advancement (EPTL 2-1.5)
 - 5. Exoneration clause (EPTL 11-1.7)
 - 6. Competency of attesting witness-beneficiary (EPTL 3-3.2)

7. Disclaimers (EPTL 2-1.11)
 8. Simultaneous death (EPTL 2-1.6)
 9. Abatement
 10. Classification of legacies and devises
 11. Antilapse (EPTL 3-3.3)
 12. Gifts to classes, children and issue (EPTL 2-1.2, 2-1.3, 3-3.3)
- K. Will contests (EPTL 3-3.5)
1. Due execution and capacity
 2. Undue influence
 3. Fraud
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 5. No-contest clauses (EPTL 3-3.5[b])
 6. Standing to contest (SCPA 1410)
- L. Non-probate transfers
1. Inter vivos gifts
 2. Joint tenancy (EPTL 6-2.1, 6-2.2)
 3. Totten Trust (EPTL 7-5.2)
 4. Life insurance and qualified employee benefit plans (EPTL 13-3.2)
- III. Family Protection
- A. Spouse's elective share and testamentary substitutes (EPTL 5-1.1-A, 5-1.2)
 - B. Share of after-born or pretermitted child (EPTL 5-3.2)
- IV. Living Wills, Health Care Proxies and Powers of Attorney (Public Health Law § 2980, et seq.; General Obligations Law § 5-1501, et seq.)
- A. Execution requirements
 - B. Revocation
 - C. Individuals eligible to be an agent
 - D. Authority of an agent

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- I. Trusts
- A. Creation including trust res, beneficiary, trustee and execution requirements (EPTL 7-1.4, 7-1.17)
 - B. Types of trusts
 1. Revocable (EPTL 7-1.9)
 2. Irrevocable (EPTL 7-1.16)
 3. Testamentary (EPTL 3-3.7)
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 - C. Alienability of trust interests and spendthrift trust provisions (EPTL 7-1.5, 7-1.6)
 - D. Powers of invasion
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- II. Future Interests (EPTL 6-3.2, 6-3.3, 6-3.4, 6-4.2)
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- III. Construction Problems
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UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE
Articles 2, 3 and 9

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