Important Information for Foreign-Educated Attorneys Applying under Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3.01

1. Graduates of the common-law faculties of Canadian law schools which are eligible to be members of the Law School Admissions Council shall be permitted to sit for the general bar examination on the same basis as graduates of law schools approved by the American Bar Association (ABA). A list of such law schools appears below:

Dalhousie University
McGill University
Queen's University
University of Alberta
University of British Columbia
University of Calgary
University of Western Ontario

University of Manitoba
University of New Brunswick
University of Ottawa
University of Saskatchewan
University of Toronto
University of Victoria
University of Windsor, Faculty of Law
York University, Osgoode Hall Law School

- 2. Graduates of law schools in foreign countries (other than Canada), may be permitted to sit for the general bar examination or apply for motion admission upon obtaining a prior determination of their legal education equivalency from the Board of Bar Examiners.
- 3. The foreign educated attorney has the burden to demonstrate that he or she has obtained a legal education equivalent to a *juris doctor* degree from a law school accredited by the ABA.
- 4. In order for the Board to determine eligibility to sit the Massachusetts Bar Examination, each applicant with a law degree received from countries outside the United States, except the Canadian schools listed above, shall submit to the Board of Bar Examiners the following documents written in or translated into English at least four months prior to making application:
 - a) <u>Cover Letter</u>: A cover letter that describes the action sought from the Board and the reason for the request
 - b) <u>Official Transcripts</u>: An official transcript from every college, university and law school (foreign or American) attended; this must include the courses taken, the grade for each course, the degree and date awarded, and the dates of attendance;
 - c) Diploma: Copies of all diplomas or degree certificates;
 - d) <u>Course Descriptions</u>: Descriptions of all courses, if not included in the transcripts, along with the method of study, i.e. classroom or long distance learning, etc.;
 - e) <u>Certificate(s) of Admission:</u> An official Certificate of Admission and Certificate of Good Standing from each jurisdiction to which the attorney is admitted; and
 - f) Resume: A resume detailing work history.

The Board will issue a written determination to the applicant, which may include a requirement that additional coursework be taken, or a *juris doctor* be obtained, at an ABA accredited law school. All documentation submitted will be retained by the Board.