

# State of New York, Court of Appeals

*At a session of the Court, held at Court of Appeals  
Hall in the City of Albany, on the 15<sup>th</sup>  
day of September, 2020.*

**Present**, HON. JANET DIFIORE, *Chief Judge, presiding*

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Temporary Waiver of Strict Compliance with certain provisions of Sections 520.3 and 520.6 of the Rules for the Admission of Attorneys and Counselors at Law (22 NYCRR 520.3 and 520.6).

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## **ORDER**

WHEREAS, the Court of Appeals recognizes the continuing substantial challenges facing law schools and law students as a result of the ongoing coronavirus health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Court of Appeals seeks to alleviate those hardships, it is

ORDERED, that, for any J.D. student enrolled in any classroom-based course at a law school approved by the American Bar Association during the Spring 2021 semester, which course was converted to a distance education course as a result of the coronavirus health emergency, strict compliance with the distance education provision contained in section 520.3(c)(6) of the Rules for the Admission of Attorneys and Counselors at Law (22 NYCRR 520.3[c][6]), defining distance education, be and the same hereby is waived, such that any converted course need not be counted towards the 15-credit hour limitation on distance education courses contained in section 520.3(c)(6)(i), and that any converted course need not be considered a distance education course for purposes of the prohibition on distance learning courses for students who have not yet completed the equivalent of 28 credit hours toward the first degree in law contained in section 520.3(c)(6)(iii); and it is further

ORDERED, that, for any LL.M. student enrolled in any course at a law school approved by the American Bar Association during the Spring 2021 semester, strict compliance with the provisions contained in section 520.6(b)(3)(v) and 520.6(b)(3)(viii) of the Rules for the Admission of Attorneys and Counselors at Law (22 NYCRR 520.6[b][3][v], [viii]), requiring that all coursework for LL.M. cure programs be completed at the campus of an American Bar Association approved law school in the United States and prohibiting credit for distance learning courses, be and the same hereby is waived; and it is further

ORDERED, that upon satisfying the Rules of this Court in all other respects, failure to comply with the above-referenced provisions shall not bar any applicant from sitting for the New York bar examination or from being admitted to the New York bar.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Janet DiFiore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Janet DiFiore  
Chief Judge  
Court of Appeals

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John P. Asiello". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

John P. Asiello  
Clerk of the Court