

AGENDA ITEM

54-132 JULY

DATE: June 27, 2012

TO: Members, Member Oversight Committee
Members, Board of Trustees

FROM: Hagop Bedoyan, Chair, California Board of Legal Specialization
Gayle Murphy, Senior Director, Admissions
Natalie Leonard, Director, Legal Specialization

SUBJECT: California Board of Legal Specialization Annual Report –
Report and Filing with the California Supreme Court

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to Rule 9.35, California Rules of Court, the State Bar of California is charged with administering a program for certifying legal specialists under rules adopted by the Board of Trustees of the State Bar of California. The Annual Report provides an overview of the program, defines program activities and identifies problem areas. Upon approval by the Board of Trustees, the Annual Report is submitted to the California Supreme Court in compliance with section 21.0 of the *Rules Governing the State Bar of California Program for Certifying Legal Specialists* and is intended to aid the Court in its continued review of the Legal Specialization Program.

Board members with questions regarding this item may contact Gayle Murphy at (415) 538-2322; gayle.murphy@calbar.ca.gov or Natalie Leonard at (415) 538-2118; natalie.leonard@calbar.ca.gov.

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to Rule 9.35, California Rules of Court, the State Bar of California is charged with administering a program for certifying legal specialists under rules adopted by the Board of Trustees of the State Bar of California. The Annual Report provides an overview of the program, defines program activities and identifies problem areas. It is submitted to the California Supreme Court in compliance with section 21.0 of the Rules Governing the State Bar of California Program for Certifying Legal Specialists and is intended to aid the Court in its continued review of the Legal Specialization Program.

ISSUE

Whether the Annual Report of the California Board of Legal Specialization, which covers the period from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, should be approved by the Board of Trustees for transmittal to the California Supreme Court.

RECOMMENDATION

The report should be approved by the Board of Trustees for transmittal to the California Supreme Court.

DISCUSSION

Enclosed is the 25th Annual Report of the California Board of Legal Specialization, which covers the period from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. Pursuant to Rule 9.35, California Rules of Court, the State Bar of California is charged with administering a program for certifying legal specialists under rules adopted by the Board of Trustees of the State Bar of California. The Annual Report provides an overview of the program, defines program activities and identifies problem areas. It is submitted to the California Supreme Court in compliance with section 21.0 of the *Rules Governing the State Bar of California Program for Certifying Legal Specialists* and is intended to aid the Court in its continued review of the Legal Specialization Program.

FISCAL / PERSONNEL IMPACT:

None

RULE AMENDMENTS:

None

BOARD BOOK IMPACT:

None

RECOMMENDATION

In order that the report may be sent to the California Supreme Court as required, it is recommended that the Board Committee on Member Oversight approve the report.

PROPOSED BOARD COMMITTEE RESOLUTION:

Should the Member Oversight Committee agree with the above recommendation, the following resolution would be appropriate:

RESOLVED, that the Member Oversight Committee recommends that the Board approve the 25th Annual Report of the California Board of Legal Specialization for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, and that the report be transmitted to the California Supreme Court as required by section 21.0 of the *Rules Governing the State Bar of California Program for Certifying Legal Specialists*.

PROPOSED BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION:

Should the Board concur with the Member Oversight Committee's recommendation, the following resolution would be in order:

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Member Oversight Committee, the Board hereby approves the 25th Annual Report of the California Board of Legal Specialization for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, and directs that the report be transmitted to the California Supreme Court as required by section 21.0 of the *Rules Governing the State Bar of California Program for Certifying Legal Specialists*.