



# **27th Annual Report**

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**California Board of Legal Specialization**

**The State Bar of California  
February 2014**

# 27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013

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Points of view or opinions expressed in this document are those of the author(s). They have not been adopted or endorsed by the State Bar's Board of Trustees and do not constitute the official position or policy of the State Bar of California.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **THE PROGRAM FOR CERTIFYING LEGAL SPECIALISTS**

The Legal Specialization program was created pursuant to California Supreme Court Rule 9.35 to provide a method for attorneys to earn the designation of certified legal specialist in particular areas of law for the purposes of increasing public protection and encouraging attorney competence.

The program was the first of its kind, and it has served as a model for other state programs for certifying legal specialists around the United States.

The program operates pursuant to the following regulatory structure:

- Rule 9.35, adopted by the Supreme Court, authorizes the State Bar of California to adopt rules to establish and administer a program to certify legal specialists;
- Rules Governing the State Bar of California Program for Certifying Legal Specialists ("Rules"), adopted by the State Bar of California Board of Trustees ("Trustees"), contain the framework for program operation; and
- Standards ("Standards") for Certification and Recertification provide details unique to each individual certified legal specialty, adopted by the State Bar of California Board of Trustees.

The general requirements to become a certified specialist include:

- passage of a written examination in the certified legal specialty area;
- completion of a course of continuing education in the area of specialty greater than that required of the general members of the Bar;
- demonstration of a broad-based and comprehensive experience in the certified legal specialty area based on completion of a variety of matters in the area of legal specialty; and
- favorable evaluation by other attorneys and judges familiar with the attorney's work in the certified legal specialty area of law.

Certification is valid for a five-year period. After the initial certification period, attorneys must apply for recertification by demonstrating that they have continued to meet task and education requirements similar to those for initial certification. Certified legal specialists are not, however, required to take the examination again after initial certification; instead, they are subject to a heightened education requirement.

The Rules mandate that the program for certifying legal specialists be self-supporting. As a result, program costs are paid for by annual fees paid to the program, as well as certification, recertification, education provider, and accreditation fees. The program is not funded by State Bar of California General Fund fees.

## **HISTORY**

The program was established to:

- give consumers a tool to use when selecting an attorney. Formal legal certification protects the public by regulating advertising of special skills by attorneys to assure that such claims are not misleading. Only attorneys who have earned the certified legal specialist designation may hold themselves out as "certified specialists." The public may rely on the fact that certified legal specialists have taken the time and care to demonstrate their proficiency in their practice areas.
- "level the playing field" by allowing attorneys in small firms to better demonstrate their proficiency to the public.
- encourage attorney competence through the development of continuing legal education (CLE) programs. Specialists were required to take CLE in their areas of practice long before the inception of the MCLE requirement for all bar members. Even now, the CLE requirement for certified specialists is significantly higher than the general State Bar of California requirement.

## **TIMELINE**

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1970 | California became the first state to establish a system for "certifying" legal specialists. Based on a proposal by the Committee on Legal Specialization, the State Bar Board of Trustees adopted a "Pilot Program" to develop through experience the most feasible and useful certification program.   |
| 1972 | The California Supreme Court approved the "Pilot Program," which certified specialists in Criminal Law, Taxation Law, and Workers' Compensation Law.  |
| 1973 | The Program administered its first examinations in Criminal Law, Taxation Law and Workers' Compensation Law.  |
| 1979 | Family Law was added to the Pilot Program.  |
| 1984 | The Board of Trustees voted to recommend that the Supreme Court make the State Bar of California Program for Certifying Legal Specialists ("Program") permanent.  |
| 1985 | The California Supreme Court approved the Program.  |
| 1986 | Immigration and Nationality Law was added to the Program.   |
| 1988 | Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law was added to the Program.  |
| 1993 | Personal and Small Business Bankruptcy Law was added to the Program.  |
| 1994 | Based upon a proposal by the California Board of Legal Specialization ("CBLS") to streamline and standardize what had become an overly complex certification process, the Board of Trustees requested that the California Supreme Court repeal the Program and adopt new rule of court 983.5* [Certifying Legal Specialists], an enabling rule containing a provision authorizing the State Bar to adopt rules to establish and administer a program for certifying legal specialists. <i>*The Court renumbered the rule as 9.35 effective January 1, 2007.</i> |

The Board of Trustees also approved new program rules and revised standards for

certification and recertification in each specialty area.

1995 The Supreme Court repealed the Program and adopted rule 983.5.

Appellate Law was added to the Program.

1996 Rule 983.5 and the new program rules and revised standards went into effect on January 1.

1997 The program rules and standards were revised again effective June 1. The changes were the result of an ongoing effort to make application and certification processes efficient and cost-effective. For the most part, the changes were "housekeeping" amendments aimed at providing answers to the most frequently asked questions about the Program, incorporating past administrative practices, and making other changes based upon the State Bar's experience operating the Program.

New Rule of Professional Conduct 1-400(D)(6), approved by the Supreme Court on November 25, 1996, also became effective on June 1, 1997. The rule prohibits a member from advertising as a "certified specialist" unless the member is certified either by the California Board of Legal Specialization or by an entity accredited by the State Bar to designate specialists pursuant to standards adopted by the Board of Trustees (the accreditation standards became effective on June 1 as well). The rule also requires the member to state the complete name of the entity that granted certification.

The National Board of Trial Advocacy's certification programs in civil and criminal trial advocacy were accredited by the State Bar.

1998 The American Board of Certification's programs in business bankruptcy law, consumer bankruptcy law, and creditor's' rights law and the National Elder Law Foundation's certification program in elder law were accredited by the State Bar.

1999 The National Board of Trial Advocacy's certification program in family law trial advocacy was accredited by the State Bar.

2002 The American Board of Professional Liability Attorneys' certification programs in accounting, legal malpractice, and medical malpractice were accredited by the State Bar.

2003 The program rules and standards were revised effective January 1. There were two significant changes to the rules: (1) an increase from three to five in the number of years during which the percentage of practice requirement applies; and (2) the addition of criteria relating to discipline and professional negligence that may be used in evaluating an applicant's proficiency and ethics, and the imposition on the applicant of a duty to disclose such criteria within a given time frame.

- 2004 The program rules were revised effective July 24 to (1) allow suspension and revocation of certification based on non-disciplinary regulatory actions; (2) give voting rights on the CBLS to all Advisory Commission chairs (prior to the change, only six of the eight chairs voted on a rotating basis); and (3) allow release of confidential information on an applicant's file to the Office of Chief Trial Counsel, which represents the CBLS when an applicant appeals the denial of his or her certification or recertification, without first having to request approval from the Board of Trustees. The Appellate Law Standards were also revised to clarify the education requirement.
- Effective September 11, the name of the Personal and Small Business Bankruptcy Law certified specialty was changed to Bankruptcy Law.
- 2005 The National Association of Counsel for Children's certification program in juvenile law (child welfare) was accredited by the State Bar.
- The program rules were revised effective October 22 to extend the approval period for CLE activities to two years and for approved providers to three years. This change conforms the approval periods to those for MCLE activities and providers.
- 2006 Franchise and Distribution Law was added to the program.
- 2007 The National Board of Trial Advocacy/National Board of Legal Specialty Certification's program in social security disability advocacy was accredited by the State Bar.
- 2008 Admiralty and Maritime Law and Legal Malpractice Law were added to the program
- 2009 The Program administered its first certified specialist examinations for Admiralty and Maritime law and Legal Malpractice Law.
- 2010 Alternate certification criteria were issued for Admiralty and Maritime Law
- 2011 The program began an evaluation process to increase efficiency through improved use of technology. The first project adopted was paperless meeting technology for the California Board of Legal Specialization and its advisory commissions.
- 2012 The program pioneered new examination development and grading procedures to streamline the process and preserve the quality.
- 2013 New rules were adopted to conform to State Bar style and with current standards of practice to ensure consumer protection.

## **NUMBER OF CERTIFIED SPECIALISTS**

As of December 31, 2013 the following were the number of certified specialists:

<b>Specialty Field</b>	<b>Number of Certified Specialists</b>
Admiralty & Maritime Law	34
Appellate Law	278
Bankruptcy Law	134
Criminal Law	346
Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law	913
Family Law	1,239
Franchise & Distribution Law	49
Immigration & Nationality Law	165
Legal Malpractice Law	81
Taxation Law	336
Workers' Compensation Law	995
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,570</b>

## **DUAL SPECIALISTS**

Eighty-five certified specialists hold dual certification. The types of dual certification are as follows: taxation/estate planning, trust and probate (65), criminal/appellate (7), family/appellate (3), and family/estate planning, trust and probate (3); taxation/immigration and nationality (1), family/bankruptcy (1), family/workers' compensation (1), family/criminal (1), bankruptcy/estate planning, trust and probate (1), workers'/admiralty (1), and appellate/legal malpractice (1).

## **JUDICIAL SERVICE**

Certified specialists engaged in judicial service (those serving as judges of courts of record or in a quasi-judicial capacity, such as court commissioners or referees) are allowed under the program rules to have their certification "tolled." This tolls the five-year recertification requirement and exempts judges from the annual certified legal specialist fee as long as they remain on judicial service. The program is honored to have 209 certified specialists who are currently engaged in judicial service. Among them are 79 certified specialists in family law, 72 in criminal law, 37 in workers' compensation law, 9 in appellate law, 5 in taxation law, 4 in immigration and nationality law, 2 in estate planning, trust and probate law, and 1 in bankruptcy law.

## **VOLUNTEERS ARE CRITICAL TO THE PROGRAM'S SUCCESS**

From the development of the initial proposal to create a new certified legal specialty area to the administration of existing certified legal specialty areas, the Program is led by volunteers assisted by the Legal Specialization Department of the State Bar of California's Office of Admissions. During 2012, California Board of Legal Specialization ("CBLS") and the Advisory Commissions for each of eleven certified specialty areas administered the program.

The CBLS and each of the Advisory Commissions met throughout the year in Northern and Southern California State Bar of California offices. Volunteers have historically served for three-year terms. Under the new rules adopted effective January 1, 2014, terms will adjust to four years, consistent with those of the Committee of Bar Examiners. These longer terms recognize the time needed to develop an expertise in examination development.

In addition, consulting groups are appointed by the Board of Trustees on an ad hoc basis to develop and make recommendations on certification standards for potential new certified legal specialty areas.

## **CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION (CBLS)**

The CBLS, appointed by the Board of Trustees, performs overall administration of the program, recommends new certified specialty areas and modifications to existing certified legal specialty areas to the Board of Trustees, and acts upon the recommendations of the Advisory Commissions for approval or denial of certification and recertification.

Historically and during 2013, the CBLS is composed of 15 members, at least three of whom must be public members, plus a non-voting council of three past chairs. In addition, the eleven Advisory Commission Chairs sit as voting members.

The officers are a Chair, a Vice-Chair and an Advisor (Immediate Past Chair). For the 2013-2014 committee year beginning September 2013, Bryan Hartnell, Redlands, is serving as Chair, Curtis Harrington, Long Beach is serving as Vice Chair and David Holmes, San Luis Obispo, is serving as advisor.

## **ADVISORY COMMISSIONS**

The Advisory Commissions, also appointed by the Board of Trustees, develop and grade the certified specialty examinations, review certification and recertification applications, and act on applications from providers who wish to offer legal specialization educational credit. Each of the Advisory Commissions is composed of nine members, at least one of whom is a public member.

## **COUNCIL OF PAST CHAIRS**

In November 1996, the Board of Trustees created and appointed a Council of Past Chairs of the Board of Legal Specialization to advise and consult with the CBLS on an ad hoc basis. This year, Past Chairs Lester Friedman, John Munsill, and Alice O'Sullivan are serving on this Council.

(See Appendix A for CBLS, Advisory Commission, and Council of Past Chairs rosters.)



## **STAFF**

The CBLS is supported by State Bar staff located in The State Bar of California offices at 180 Howard Street in San Francisco, California. (See Appendix B for State Bar Staff providing support to the CBLS).

The Legal Specialization program is administered by staff in the Legal Specialization Department of the State Bar's Office of Admissions. The day-to-day operations of the program include processing applications for certification and recertification, as well as applications to provide legal specialist continuing education. Staff also answers inquiries about the program from the public and members of the Bar, provides administrative support to the CBLS, Advisory Commissions, and Consulting Groups, maintains the Legal Specialization web site, and assists with program outreach.

## **BUDGET/FISCAL MATTERS**

Section 20.8 of the Rules mandates that the program be self-supporting. It is completely funded by fees collected from applicants, certified specialists, education providers, and accredited organizations. The program is not subsidized by attorney dues or other general fund revenues collected by the State Bar of California.

The annual budget, which runs from January through December, is prepared in accordance with the State Bar of California's policies and directives and is subject to approval by the State Bar's Board of Trustees. For 2013, total revenues were \$2,467,523, which were above the budgeted revenues of \$2,414,699 due to higher than expected registration for the legal specialist examination. Total expenses for the program were \$1,548,807 versus \$1,709,836 that was budgeted.

## ***ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAM***

### **CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION**

This program piloted the idea of requiring continuing education for attorneys long before there were general Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) requirements. The program encourages the creation of high-level educational courses that provide life-long learning for both new and experienced practitioners.

One of the important functions of each of the Advisory Commissions is to supervise the quality of proposed continuing legal education programs that may be attended by individuals who need to meet the requirements of certification or recertification. Applicants for certification are required to complete 45 hours of approved education activities during the three years immediately preceding the initial application. Applicants for recertification are required to complete 60 hours of education in the substantive area of their certified legal specialty during each five-year certification term.

The Advisory Commissions are authorized to approve providers of education programs for a period of up to three years. To qualify as a Multiple Activity Provider, the provider must demonstrate that, in the two years immediately preceding application, the provider presented at least four qualifying education programs that complied with the requirements for education program content. Like MCLE, Multiple Activity Legal Specialization Provider status allows providers to offer an unlimited number of substantively relevant programs for legal specialization credit in the approved area of law for a specified three-year period.

## **EXAMINATIONS**

Examinations take place in alternate odd-numbered years. On October 22, 2013, 817 applicants took legal specialist examinations in South San Francisco and Pasadena. This represents a 17% increase over the number of applicants who took the prior legal specialist examination in 2011.

The next examination will be offered October 27, 2015.

## **ACCREDITATION OF SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS FOR ATTORNEYS**

Rule of Professional Conduct 1-400(D) (6) prohibits a member from advertising as a "certified specialist" unless the member is certified by the California Board of Legal Specialization or another entity accredited by the State Bar to evaluate applications to become certified legal specialists pursuant to standards adopted by the State Bar of California Board of Trustees. The following certification programs have been accredited pursuant to the Rules Governing Accreditation of Specialty Certification Programs for Attorneys:

<b>Certifying Organization</b>	<b>Certification Programs</b>	<b># of CA Attorneys Certified</b>
American Board of Certification	Business bankruptcy law Consumer bankruptcy law Creditors' rights law	36 18 8
American Board of Professional Liability Attorneys	Legal professional liability Medical professional liability	3 21
National Association of Counsel for Children	Juvenile law (child welfare)	99
National Board of Legal Specialty Certification	Civil trial advocacy Criminal trial advocacy Family law trial advocacy Social Security disability law	100 11 4 5
National Elder Law Foundation	Elder law	29
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>337</b>

## **INTERNET**

The program's website can be reached from the main State Bar of California website, or by visiting [www.calfiorniaspecialist.org](http://www.calfiorniaspecialist.org). Visitors to the State Bar's Web site can access information about the Legal Specialization Program and search for a certified specialist by area of law and geography both from the Attorney Search Function and from the Legal Specialization portal. Attorneys interested in becoming certified can use the Legal Specialization Portal to learn about the application process, the program's rules and regulations, and the standards for certification.

## **PUBLIC AWARENESS**

The program continued its established public awareness activities:

- ads and articles in the California Bar eJournal
- funding of public radio program, Your Legal Rights, on KALW 91.7, San Francisco, hosted by Chuck Finney, a weekly call-in format that features certified specialists as guests at least once a month and Call A Lawyer Night featuring certified specialists, available on KALW 91.7 FM San Francisco and via NPR.org podcast.
- publication of consumer pamphlets that certified legal specialists and others can use to communicate the benefits of certified legal specialization
- recognizing specialists who have been certified for 20 and 30 years
- teaching an outreach course designed to acquaint new attorneys with the Program for Certifying Legal Specialists.
- distributing information at local bar associations and relevant conferences to increase program awareness
- creating social media pages via services such as LinkedIn to increase public and attorney awareness of the program
- redesigning website to create a more user friendly experience
- upgrading the State Bar certified specialist search to allow for searches on a number of criteria in addition to the previously available county search

## **CBLS LOGO**



The CBLS logo is registered as a certification mark with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Under California Rule of Professional Conduct 1-400(D) (6), attorneys who hold themselves out as certified specialists must identify the certifying body. Certified specialists may use the logo in their advertising instead of, or in addition to, spelling out "The State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization." Use of the logo is intended to present a consistent, identifiable image for specialization apart from regular Bar membership in order to promote recognition of certified legal specialist certification among both attorneys and consumers of legal services.

## **RECOGNITION PROGRAMS**

The Board of Legal Specialization has established recognition programs for certified specialists who have been continuously certified by the CBLS in a particular specialty area for 20 and 30 years and for those on judicial service.

Those honored in 2013 were seventy-nine certified specialists who reached the 30-year mark, including seven certified criminal law specialist, twenty-nine certified family law specialists, twenty-two certified taxation law specialists and twenty-one certified workers' compensation specialists. . The 203 twenty-year honorees included forty certified workers' compensation law specialist, seventeen certified criminal law specialists, twenty-one certified taxation law specialists, four certified immigration and nationality law specialists, sixty-six certified family law specialists, and fifty-five certified estate planning, trust and probate law specialists.

## ***IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEM AREAS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

Section 21.0 of the Rules effective in 2013 requires that the CBLS Annual Report identify problem areas and recommend appropriate solutions. During this reporting period of January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013, the CBLS has identified the following continuing areas for further study and potential action.

### **INCREASING PUBLIC AND ATTORNEY AWARENESS**

The CBLS continues to explore ways to reach practitioners, consumers, and education providers to increase awareness of the program and its benefits. During 2013, the following goals were achieved:

- *Employed electronic outreach to increase the number of test takers by 17%.*
- Increased outreach to new attorneys through seminars, electronic means, and updated printed materials

In 2014 additional methods for outreach will be considered, including:

- Exploring the role of technology in improving efficiency
- Increasing electronic outreach via social media
- Attending outreach events at minority and local bar associations
- Working with neighborhood groups and the State Bar to increase outreach to consumers

Roster of Volunteers for the Legal Specialization Program  
Board Year 2013-2014

California Board of Legal Specialization

<b>Bryan Calvin Hartnell</b>	Chair	Redlands
<b>Curtis L. Harrington Jr</b>	Vice Chair	Long Beach
<b>David Edward Holmes</b>	Advisor	San Luis Obispo
<b>Mitchell Edward Abbott</b>	Member	Los Angeles
<b>Michael Stephen Berg</b>	AC Chair	San Diego
<b>Jeffrey L. Fillerup</b>	AC Chair	San Francisco
<b>Peter Taylor Fortune</b>	Member	San Francisco
<b>Ricardo A. Goni</b>	Public Member	W. Sacramento
<b>Linda Sue Gross</b>	Member	Santa Monica
<b>Jeffrey A. Hahn</b>	Public Member	Torrance
<b>Jeffrey B. Hayden</b>	Member	Redwood City
<b>Gary M. Kaplan</b>	AC Chair	San Francisco
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<b>Ronald A. Mollis</b>	AC Chair	Newport Beach
<b>Kenneth George Petrulis</b>	Member	Los Angeles
<b>Glenn J. Plattner</b>	Member	Santa Monica
<b>Thomas A. Richard</b>	AC Chair	Oakland
<b>Philip M. Savage IV</b>	AC Chair	Riverside
<b>Donald K. Sheppard</b>	AC Chair	San Diego
<b>Sterling J. Stires</b>	AC Chair	San Diego
<b>Deborah A. Wolfe</b>	AC Chair	San Diego

Council of Past CBLS Chairs

<b>Lester James Friedman</b>	Past Chair	Beverly Hills
<b>John William Munsill</b>	Past Chair	Gold River
<b>Alice Wildermuth O'Sullivan</b>	Past Chair	Oakland

Board of Trustees' Liaison to CBLS

<b>Glenda Corcoran</b>	Liaison	Sacramento
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Admiralty Law Advisory Commission

<b>Sterling J. Stires</b>	Chair	San Diego
<b>Cory Alexander Birnberg</b>	Vice Chair	San Francisco
<b>John M. Betz</b>	Public Member	San Pedro
<b>William Edward Dysart</b>	Member	San Diego
<b>William K. Enger</b>	Member	Los Angeles

<b>Gerald Lee Gorman</b>	Member	San Diego
<b>Neil S. Lerner</b>	Member	Los Angeles
<b>Michael W. McLeod</b>	Member	Lighthouse Point, FL
<b>Arthur A. Severance</b>	Member	Whittier

Appellate Law Advisory Commission

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<b>Frank S. Moore</b>	Member	San Francisco
<b>Tyna Claire Thall Orren</b>	Member	Pasadena
<b>Beth Robbins</b>	Public Member	San Francisco
<b>Aurelio Torre</b>	Member	Santa Ana

Bankruptcy Law Advisory Commission

<b>Gary M. Kaplan</b>	Chair	San Francisco
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<b>Nicholas W. Gebelt</b>	Member	Whittier
<b>Jon Hayes</b>	Member	Sherman Oaks
<b>Wayne Alan Silver</b>	Member	Sunnyvale
<b>Jeffrey B. Smith</b>	Member	Long Beach
<b>Cheryl L. Stengel</b>	Member	San Diego

Criminal Law Advisory Commission

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<b>Jeffrey T. Hammerschmidt</b>	Member	Fresno
<b>Kurt D. Hermansen</b>	Member	San Diego
<b>Jonathan Mandel</b>	Member	Encino
<b>Sandra Molner</b>	Public Member	Norwalk

#### Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law Advisory Commission

<b>Philip M. Savage IV</b>	Chair	Riverside
<b>James Howard Efting</b>	Vice Chair	Sunnyvale
<b>Daniel Gerard Brown</b>	Member	San Mateo
<b>Leslie R. Daff</b>	Member	Laguna Beach
<b>Howard S. Hou</b>	Member	Los Angeles
<b>Mark Abbott Lester</b>	Member	Oxnard
<b>David D. Little</b>	Member	Oakland
<b>Deborah Kramer Radin</b>	Member	Los Altos
<b>Jerome Spector</b>	Public Member	East Palo Alto

#### Family Law Advisory Commission

<b>Rolf D. Kruger</b>	Chair	Menlo Park
<b>Becky A. Rasmason</b>	Vice Chair	Windsor
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<b>Beth Schluter Jordan</b>	Member	San Rafael
<b>Wesley Nutten</b>	Public Member	Los Angeles
<b>Justin M. O'Connell</b>	Member	Salinas
<b>David S. Schulman</b>	Member	San Diego
<b>Brian G. Seastrom</b>	Member	Newport Beach
<b>Nanette Schulze Stringer</b>	Member	Palo Alto

#### Franchise and Distribution Law Advisory Commission

<b>Jeffrey L. Fillerup</b>	Chair	San Francisco
<b>Dawn Newton</b>	Vice Chair	Oakland
<b>Brian Cole</b>	Member	Manhattan Beach
<b>Anthony J. Marks</b>	Member	Santa Monica
<b>Bruce Napell</b>	Member	Sebastopol
<b>Margaret Ellen Narodick</b>	Member	Long Beach
<b>Timothy A. Pickwell</b>	Member	San Diego
<b>Therese Thilgen</b>	Public Member	San Jose
<b>Phyllis Alden Truby</b>	Member	Los Angeles

#### Immigration and Nationality Law Advisory Commission

<b>Donald K. Sheppard</b>	Chair	San Diego
<b>Stacey L. Gartland</b>	Vice Chair	San Francisco
<b>Judith Ann Bloomberg</b>	Member	San Rafael
<b>Madeleine Kirkconnell</b>	Public Member	Stockton

<b>Love M. Macione</b>	Member	Oakland
<b>Kathrin S. Mautino</b>	Member	San Diego
<b>Blake C. Nordahl</b>	Member	Sacramento
<b>Henry A. Posada</b>	Member	Downey
<b>Daniel J. Roemer</b>	Member	Walnut Creek

#### Legal Malpractice Law Advisory Commission

<b>Deborah Ann Wolfe</b>	Chair	San Diego
<b>Peter Michael Kunstler</b>	Vice Chair	Santa Monica
<b>Raymond Jerome Coughlan, Jr</b>	Member	San Diego
<b>Kevin V. Desantis</b>	Member	San Diego
<b>Kathleen M. Ewins</b>	Member	San Francisco
<b>Paul A Frassetto</b>	Member	San Francisco
<b>Lee Friedman</b>	Public Member	Los Angeles
<b>William A. Munoz</b>	Member	Sacramento
<b>Natalie P. Vance</b>	Member	Sacramento

#### Taxation Law Advisory Commission

<b>Ronald Angelo Mollis</b>	Chair	Newport Beach
<b>Miles David Friedman</b>	Vice Chair	Laguna Niguel
<b>Norman Harry Green</b>	Member	Glendale
<b>Sanford Irwin Millar</b>	Member	Los Angeles
<b>Benjamin Fredrick Miller</b>	Member	Sacramento
<b>Thomas F. Ogden</b>	Member	Alhambra
<b>Mitchell Louis Schwary, Jr.</b>	Member	Irvine
<b>Barbara R. Simon</b>	Public Member	San Francisco
<b>Kurt Cummings Swainston</b>	Member	Glendale

#### Workers' Compensation Law Advisory Commission

<b>Thomas A. Richard</b>	Chair	Oakland
<b>Denise La Verde Sanchez</b>	Vice Chair	San Diego
<b>Norma L. Acosta</b>	Member	San Jose
<b>Jeffrey C. Andersen</b>	Member	Rohnert Park
<b>Sharon E. Kelly</b>	Member	Modesto
<b>Charles R. Rondeau</b>	Member	Gardena
<b>Elizabeth Ramona Valenzuela</b>	Member	Sherman Oaks
<b>Robert E. Willyard</b>	Member	Anaheim
<b>Jake Yoon</b>	Public Member	Inglewood



State Bar Staff  
Providing Support to the California Board of Legal Specialization

Legal Specialization Program

<b>Gayle Murphy</b>	Senior Director	Admissions
<b>Natalie Leonard</b>	Director	Legal Specialization
<b>Christina Doell</b>	Staff	Legal Specialization
<b>Beverly Aguilar</b>	Staff	Legal Specialization
<b>Louisa Ayrapetyan</b>	Staff	Legal Specialization
<b>Scott Kiddy</b>	Staff	Legal Specialization
<b>Fabienne Lopez</b>	Staff	Legal Specialization
<b>Vien Vong</b>	Staff	Legal Specialization