

Board Executive Committee Referral List

March 12, 2015

Category 1 – Change in Date Only

March #1

Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct, Proposed Modifications

The review of the Standards has been completed and will be presented to RAD and the Board at the March meeting.

Responsible Staff: Rachel Grunberg

Recommendation: RAD – MAR

BOT - MAR

Category 2 – Possible Committee Reassignments

None.

Category 3 – New Matters Requiring Assignment to Appropriate Board Committee

March #2

Proposed Amendments to the Legal Specialization Rules

This item proposes amendments to the Legal Specialization Rules that removes the provisions that permit an applicant to appeal a denial of legal specialist certification to the State Bar Court. In line with other State Bar Rules, such as those relating to admission and law school regulation, the decision of the Board of Legal Specialization should be considered final. It is recommended that the proposed amendments be circulated for a 45-day public comment period.

Responsible Staff: Gayle Murphy

Recommendation: A&E – MAR/MAY

BOT - MAY

March #3

Proposed Amendments to Admissions Rules re Processing of Moral Character Determination Applications

The purpose of this item from the Committee of Bar Examiners is to clarify the deadline for filing an appeal, and to clarify the date an applicant can re-apply following denial. A request to circulate for public comment will be presented to A&E in March 2015, and, if approved, will return to A&E and the Board in May 2015 following public comment.

Responsible Staff: Gayle Murphy

Recommendation: A&E – MAR/MAY

BOT – MAY

March #4

Request for Additional Judge Pro Tem

The State Bar Court seeks to add another Judge Pro Tem to handle settlement conferences and early neutral evaluations.

Responsible Staff: Colin Wong

Recommendation: RAD – MAR

BOT – MAR

March #5

Budget Policy Revision – Tab 17, Article 1, Section 1

On January 24, 2015, the Board of Trustees adopted the Bar's 2015-17 Budget with the spending authority under the budget ending April 30, 2015, subject to further review and action at the Board's March meeting and directed staff to submit a revised budget with spending authority identified by program cost center by April 30, 2015.

Responsible Staff: Sam Quan & Christine Wong

Recommendation: P&B MARCH

BOT – MAR

March #6

2015-17 Budget Spending Authority

On January 24, 2015, the Board of Trustees adopted the Bar's 2015 annual budget with spending authority only through April 30, 2015, until the budget is presented at the cost center level budget in addition to the fund level and staff reviews fiscal standards for budget monitoring. Staff in agenda item MARCH 143 has proposed revisions the Bar's Board Book, Tab 17, Article 1, Section 1 that should allay the concerns that led the Board to adopt the 2015 budget with spending authority only through April 30, 2015. Following adoption of the budget policy changes outlined in MARCH 143, staff recommends that the Committee and the Board adopt the 2015-17 budget, with spending authority through the end of fiscal year 2015.

Responsible Staff: Sam Quan & Christine Wong

Recommendation: P&B MARCH

BOT – MAR

March #7

State Bar Reserve Policy

The Unanticipated General Fund Savings and Revenues reserve policy adopted on November 14, 2013 by the Board of Trustees, covers only the Bar's General Fund and does not impose guidelines for other statutorily-restricted and board-restricted funds. As part of the State Bar's commitment to prudent financial practices, a more extensive and comprehensive approach to the reserve fund policy was requested to provide for monies that may be needed for unforeseen circumstances and to set a minimum and maximum amount for selected funds,

Responsible Staff: Sam Quan & Christine Wong

Recommendation: P&B MARCH

BOT – MAR

March #8

President's Allowance – Proposal to Revise Board Book, Tab 8, Article 1, Section 5 (a) (b) (c)

Currently the President of the State Bar receives a \$30,000 annual allowance, disbursed at the President's discretion, for extraordinary expenses beyond normal State Bar reimbursement for necessary expenses connected with the performance of his/her duties.

The President is also currently compensated for his actual and necessary expenses for attendance at non-State Bar events at which he or she appears on behalf of the Bar.

This memorandum considered revisions to Board Book, Tab 8, Article 1, Section 5 (a)(b)(c), to specify that: (1) \$30,000 is appropriated on a continuing basis to fund the reasonable and necessary expenses of the President; (2) the President may be reimbursed for his or her cost to attend an event as a representative of the State Bar; (3) such reimbursements shall be funded from sources other than mandatory dues; and (4) such reimbursements shall be consistent with the requirement of Business & Professions Code section 6028, subdivision (c) that no attorney Trustee be compensated for service.

Responsible Parties: Michael Colantuono & James Fox

Recommendation: ExCom - MAR

BOT – MAR