



THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

LAWYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Title of Report: The State Bar of California Lawyer Assistance Program 2017 Annual Report
Statutory Citation: Business and Professions Code Section 6238
Date of Report: March 1, 2018

The State Bar of California has submitted a report to the Legislature in accordance with Business and Professions Code Section 6238, which directs the Oversight Committee of the Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP) to submit a report to the Board of Trustees and the Legislature on the operation of the LAP, including key program statistics.

The following summary of the report is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Government Code §9795.

- In March of 2017, the Lawyer Assistance Program Oversight Committee adopted a 3-year strategic plan that addresses the goals of both improving LAP outreach and education efforts, as well as improving the overall program design and effectiveness;
- A Strategic Plan goal of promoting legislation that would allow bar applicants to participate in the LAP was achieved with the passage of Senate Bill 36 which amended Business and Professions Code Section 6232 to extend eligibility for the LAP to applicants who are in law school or have applied for admission to the State Bar;
- The LAP contracted with Patrick Krill, a leading authority on substance use and mental health issues in the attorney population, to conduct a comprehensive program evaluation;
- Following the recommendation of both Patrick Krill and the National Center for State Courts in its Workforce Planning study for the State Bar of California, the LAP Oversight Committee directed staff to eliminate the Evaluation Committee process for all but the Alternative Discipline Program cases. A process to replace the use of the Evaluation Committee will be piloted shortly after the delivery of this report;
- During 2017:
 - LAP case managers conducted 143 intakes, an increase of nine over 2016;
 - The overall number of individuals who participated in LAP in 2017 totaled 277;
 - Of the 147 cases closed, nearly half (48%) were closed with participants meeting the program goals, 13% were not admitted, and there were no terminations due to noncompliance;
 - In 2017, 45% participants entered LAP to address a substance use disorder, 21% enrolled with a mental health issue, and the remaining 33% had a dual-diagnosis.

The full report is available for download on the State Bar's website at: <http://www.calbar.ca.gov/About-Us/Reports>. A printed copy of the report may be obtained by calling 213-765-1190.