

OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEM

**54-131 MAY 2018
PRO COMM III.A.**

DATE: May 17, 2018

TO: **Members, Programs Committee
Members, Board of Trustees**

FROM: Glenn Plattner, Chair, Board of Legal Specialization
Amy Nuñez, Interim Director, Office of Admissions
Natalie Leonard, Program Manager III, Legal Specialization

SUBJECT: Report and Filing of the 2017 Annual Report of the California Board of Legal Specialization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since 1987, the California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLS) has submitted an annual report describing the State Bar's program for certifying legal specialists. Attached is the 2017 Annual Report for the Programs Committee's approval to submit to the Board of Trustees.

BACKGROUND

The CBLS oversees the day-to-day operations of the State Bar's program for certifying legal specialists. This program is authorized under California Rule of Court 9.35 and operates pursuant to rules adopted by the Board of Trustees.

The CBLS began producing an annual report to file with the Supreme Court of California each year, which reports on the program's background, activities, and recommendations for the following year. The attached 2017 Annual Report is intended to inform the Board of Trustees, Programs Committee, attorneys, and the public about the status of the program.

DISCUSSION

The 2017 Annual Report of the California Board of Legal Specialization, covering calendar year 2017, is attached. It describes the program's achievements and accomplishments in 2017, including the largest administration of the Legal Specialist Examination to date. The report also sets forth basic statistics about the program, including the total number of certified specialists, as well as for each specialty area.

The next examination is scheduled for Tuesday, October 22, 2019.

After the report is received by the Board of Trustees, it is posted on the State Bar's website to be available to members of the public.

FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACT

None

RULE AMENDMENTS

None

BOARD BOOK AMENDMENTS

None

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal: 5. Proactively inform and educate all stakeholders, but particularly the public, about the State Bar's responsibilities, initiatives, and resources.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Programs Committee and Board of Trustees approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees receives and accepts the 2017 Annual Report of the California Board of Legal Specialization and direct staff to post the report on the State Bar's website.

ATTACHMENT(S) LIST

- A.** 2017 Annual Report of the California Board of Legal Specialization