

**CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION
OPEN MEETING ACTION SUMMARY**

**The State Bar of California
Telephonic Conference Call
180 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105
Friday, October 26, 2018, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

A meeting of the California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLS) was convened on Friday, October 26, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. in open session with Chair Glenn Plattner presiding.

The following members/officers of the CBLS were present: Michael Berg, Janet M. Coulter, Louis Esbin, Miles Friedman, Jeffrey Hayden, Robert Hershenson, Jeremy Kline, Mark A. Lester, Cynthia Levin, John Munsill, Glenn Plattner, Aurelio Torre and L. Robert Vermes.

The following members of the CBLS were absent: Donald Sheppard and Neil Thakur.

The following State Bar staff members were present: Amy Nuñez, Director; Natalie Leonard, Program Manager III; and Destie Overpeck, Attorney III.

I. INFORMATION

1. Chair Plattner welcomed members and staff.
2. Amy Nuñez and Natalie Leonard updated the CBLS on the September Board of Trustees motion on Appendix I Sub-Entity Review as it relates to the CBLS. The motion, as approved, is as follows:
 - Continue certifying in a defined set of specialty areas and recognize private organizations to certify in additional areas;
 - Streamline the process by reducing the role, size, and meetings of the 11 Specialty Advisory Commissions by:
 - continuing the use of a short-term examination development team and the development of an inventory of exam questions for future use;
 - hiring consultants to grade examinations and using remote grading technology;
 - updating practice standards using short-term working groups of subject matter experts; and
 - automating test administration through the new Admissions Information Management System (AIMS); and
 - Requests that staff identify legal specializations that increase access to justice.

Additional guidance is to be received from the Board of Trustees at its November meeting.

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3. Amy Nuñez gave the report on the status of the new AIMS Admissions computer system that will launch by 2019.
4. Workers' Compensation Administrative Law Judge Janet M. Coulter continues to maintain a standing abstention for any votes regarding Workers' Compensation appointments and applications until further notice.

II. ACTION

1. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, the recommendations of the advisory commissions regarding the certification and recertification of certified specialists were approved.

Certifications were adopted effective November 1, 2018. Recertifications were adopted effective on the applicants' scheduled recertification dates as noted.

All members present voted yes.

2. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, the recommendations of the advisory commissions regarding the revocation of the status of certified specialists was approved.

Specialists who have not filed timely recertification applications will have their certificates revoked if they do not provide a recertification application and proper payment within ten days of a final reminder.

All members present voted yes.

3. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, that Tricia Toyne be asked to resubmit proof of 10.75 hours of education that complies with the definition of "participatory activity" in addition to the "participatory activities" previously submitted within 90 days of a notice to her, and that her original certification date be retained so long as this deadline is met. The amended certification will be provided to CBLS for ratification.

All members present voted yes.

The next CBLS meeting will be held at **State Bar of California in San Francisco** on November 30, 2018, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Seeing no other business, Chair Plattner called the open session of the meeting to a close at 2:00 pm, and the group convened into closed session.

Respectfully submitted,
Adrian Galang
Program Coordinator, Legal Specialization