



# The State Bar *of California*

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## **OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEM JANUARY 2020 COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS ITEM O-408**

**DATE:** January 31, 2020

**TO:** Members, Committee of Bar Examiners

**FROM:** Natalie Leonard, Principal Program Analyst

**SUBJECT:** Action on Request for Major Change – University of West Los Angeles Campus Move – Chatsworth Campus

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### **BACKGROUND**

The University of West Los Angeles School of Law (UWLA) submits this Request for Major Change seeking approval to relocate its campus with Chatsworth, California. (Attachment A) The school plans to stay within the same town, but move to a new location (19900 Plummer St, Chatsworth, California) approximately one-third mile from its current location (9201 Oakdale Avenue, #201, Chatsworth, California) on or about April 1, 2020. Staff recommends approval of this move.

An accredited law school must request and obtain the approval of the Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee) in order to make a major change, such as “changing the . . . location of a branch campus or satellite campus.” Rule 4.165(B), as UWLA has done here.

### **DISCUSSION**

The new location allows the school to offer larger facilities and more parking at a lower cost than at the current location. The cost savings comes from sharing the campus with the Phillips Education Center of Campbellsville University.

Guideline 9.1 provides that a “law school may share classroom space with another department or institution if the arrangements do not interfere with the scheduling of classes.” Here, UWLA complies with this Guideline in two ways. First, the school will expand from six to eight classrooms. Second, when scheduling classes, UWLA has a formal agreement that allows it to select its first choice of classroom times.

UWLA is also accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), and WASC has already approved this change.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that this move because the new location is close to the current location and offers more facilities at less cost to the school.

## **PROPOSED MOTION**

If the Committee agrees with this recommendation, the following motion is suggested:

Move that the Committee of Bar Examiners accept and file the University of West Los Angeles School of Law's application for Major Change; and that the school's request to move its campus in Chatsworth from 9201 Oakdale Avenue, #201, Chatsworth, California to 19900 Plummer St, Chatsworth, California be granted effective on or about April 1, 2020.

**Attachment A:** University of West Los Angeles School of Law Request for Major Change – Relocation of Chatsworth Campus within Chatsworth



SINCE 1966

**SCHOOL OF LAW**  
**OFFICE OF THE DEAN**

December 23, 2019

The State Bar of California  
 Attn. Natalie Leonard  
 Principal Program Analyst, Office of Admissions  
 180 Howard Street  
 San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: UWLA (9003) Major Change Request – Campus Move

Dear Ms. Leonard,

UWLA files this Major Change Request pursuant to Accredited Law School Rule 4.164 as it is seeking permission to move UWLA's Chatsworth (9003) campus from its current location of 9201 Oakdale Ave # 201, Chatsworth, CA 91311 to 19900 Plummer St. Chatsworth, CA 91311 a distance of 1/3 of a mile. I understand that there is a \$250.00 deposit required for the Application for Major Change fee. This will be sent separately from UWLA's business office.

The move is currently planned to take place on or before April 1, 2020. The current Chatsworth location will close at the same time. UWLA is moving to this new location because: 1) The new campus will afford UWLA additional space to grow, as our projections indicate increase student demand due to our WSCUC accreditation and our current pursuit of Federal Financial Aid for our students and 2) a reduction in operating expenses through the shared use of the campus with the Phillips Education Center of Campbellsville University.

UWLA foresees little issue from the transition to students, as the new campus is only 1/3 of a mile from our existing campus while affording students larger study areas and additional parking.

UWLA's current Chatsworth campus contains six (6) classrooms with a seating capacity of 240 students to a new campus containing eight (8) classrooms with a seating capacity of 275 students. UWLA has ensured compliance with Guideline 9.1 of the Accredited Law School Rules that permits a "law school may share classroom space with another department or institution if the arrangements do not interfere with the scheduling of classes" by having the right of first refusal for all classes offered on the premises and for all scheduling purposes and by ensuring that all accommodations at the new location are equal to or superior to the existing accommodations of the current Chatsworth campus.

UWLA has concurrently notified WSCUC of the requested change in campus location and has been informed that due to the change in campus location being under five (5) miles UWLA may proceed by updating its WSCUC profile online.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the number or email below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jay Frykberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and "F".

Jay Frykberg  
Dean - School of Law, Professor of Law & ALO