



The State Bar of California

OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEM O-500 AUGUST 2020 COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS

DATE: August 21, 2020

TO: Members, Committee of Bar Examiners

FROM: Tara Clark, Program Manager, Moral Character Determinations

SUBJECT: Action on Moral Character Goals and Accomplishments

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Below are the goals and accomplishments for Moral Character Determinations for 2019–2020.

BACKGROUND

The Moral Character goals for 2019 to 2020, as previously approved by the Committee of Bar Examiners (CBE), are listed below.

1. Present findings of the Moral Character Working Group review of the current standards for determination of moral character matters and any recommendations for change.

April 2020

During the Committee's April 2020 meeting, the Committee reviewed and approved the final documents of the Moral Character Working Group.

2. CBE members to receive a presentation on the Unauthorized Practice of Law.

October 2019

During the Committee's October 2019 meeting, the Committee received training by David Lane on the unauthorized practice of law and how it relates to a moral character determination.

3. CBE members to receive a presentation on the dynamics of sexual assault and survivor response.

December 2019

During the Committee's December 2019 meeting, the Committee received training by Julia Weber on the dynamics of sexual assault and survivor response, and how they relate to a moral character determination.

4. CBE members to receive a presentation on the Lawyer Assistance Program.

June 2020

During the Committee's June 2019 meeting, the Committee received training by Lita Abella on the State Bar's Lawyer Assistance Program and how it relates to a moral character determination.

5. CBE members to receive a presentation on rehabilitation related to a moral character determination.

October 2020

Because of time considerations, this training will be presented at the October 2020 Committee meeting.

6. Receive additional trainings on topics relative to moral character determinations (e.g. Ethics School, Client Trust Accounting School).

Ongoing

7. Conduct requested administrative reviews of adverse moral character determinations and make final determinations with respect to Applications for Determinations of Moral Character.

Ongoing

FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACT

None

AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF THE STATE BAR

None

AMENDMENTS TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES POLICY MANUAL

None

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal: None - core business operations

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee of Bar Examiners approve the 2019–2020 Moral Character goals and accomplishments set forth above.

PROPOSED MOTION

Should the Committee of Bar Examiners agree with staff recommendations, the following motion should be made:

MOVE, that the 2019–2020 Moral Character goals and accomplishments be approved.