



The State Bar *of California*

OPEN SESSION

AGENDA ITEM

IV.F. SEPTEMBER 2020

DATE: September 14, 2020

TO: Members, California Board of Legal Specialization

FROM: Amy C. Nuñez, Director, Office of Admissions

SUBJECT: Approval of Annual Certification Revocations for Failure to Report Group 3
2020 Legal Specialist Continuing Legal Education Compliance

SUMMARY

Staff provide the attached recommendations for revocation of certification for failure to report 2020 Group 3 Legal Specialist Continuing Legal Education (LSCLE) Compliance (Attachment A).

BACKGROUND

Program rules require certified specialists to report 36 hours of LSCLE every three years, which is reported at the same time as their general MCLE requirement. 2020 MCLE Compliance Group 3 reporting was originally due February 1, 2020, and the CBLS approved to extend the deadline to match any related MCLE reporting extension date. Due to the changing closures and restrictions related to COVID-19, this deadline was extended to September 30, 2020.

Reminders have been sent to specialists via email prior to the original and extended deadline.

As of September 1, 2020, 544 certified specialists in Compliance Group 3 have not yet submitted their 2020 LSCLE compliance.

DISCUSSION

Attachment A lists certified specialists who were due to report 36 hours of LSCLE or an approved equivalent by the extended deadline of September 30, 2020, but they did not submit

compliance and have not otherwise respond to any of Staff's communications. The following table provides a breakdown of those specialists by specialty area.

| Specialty Area | # of Specialists Pending 2020 LSCLE Compliance |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Admiralty & Maritime Law | 5 |
| Appellate Law | 23 |
| Bankruptcy Law | 15 |
| Criminal Law | 29 |
| Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law | 85 |
| Family Law | 165 |
| Franchise & Distribution Law | 3 |
| Immigration & Nationality Law | 23 |
| Legal Malpractice Law | 8 |
| Taxation Law | 43 |
| Workers' Compensation Law | 145 |

Staff requests permission to send a final notice (via email and mail) after the extended deadline, informing these certified specialists that if they do not submit compliance within thirty days, their certificate of specialization will be revoked. This would be consistent with past CBLS action taken each year with certified specialists who missed their compliance reporting period.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the California Board of Legal Specialization approve the following motion:

MOVE, that those certified specialists listed on Attachment A are revoked for failure to comply with the LSCLE requirement if no response to a final communication is received within thirty days.

ATTACHMENT(S) LIST

- A. List of certified specialists who did submit 2020 Group 3 LSCLE compliance as of September 1, 2020