



The State Bar of California

OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEM O-407 DECEMBER 2020 COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS

DATE: December 4, 2020

TO: Members, Committee of Bar Examiners

FROM: Natalie Leonard, Principal Program Analyst

SUBJECT: Report on New Administrative Leadership at Law Schools and Noticed Changes

Pursuant to Guideline 4.10(A) of the *Guidelines for Accredited Law School Rules* and Guideline 4.11(A) of the *Guidelines for Unaccredited Law School Rules*, the following changes were reported at Accredited and Unaccredited Law Schools:

- American Heritage University School of Law has moved from one office suite to another within its current building. The school is now located at: 9227 Haven Street, Suite 210, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730. The school moved to this building on short notice after its prior location was vandalized, taking the suite that was available and moving within the same building when a larger suite became available.
- California Southern Law School has voluntarily closed in good standing on December 1, 2020 and surrendered its registration. After the passing of its founder, Elwood M. Rich, in 2015, the school planned an orderly closure that offered each student the opportunity to complete their JD study at the school. The school graduated its last class in spring 2020, and no students are currently enrolled. Over 400 graduates of the school have been licensed to practice law since the school's founding in 1971. Gregory Rich will serve as custodian of records.
- Pacific Coast University School of Law has named Basil George Dezes as the law school's new law school dean. Dean Dezes has previously served as the dean of the law school at the University of West Los Angeles and interim dean of San Francisco Law School's San Diego Campus. Dean Dezes has also served as a member of the State Bar's Rules Advisory Committee to the Committee of Bar Examiners.
- Pacific Coast University has named Natalie Badillo-Casas as the law school's new registrar. Ms. Badillo-Casas previously served as an Admissions Counselor and the Director of Registrar Services at Whittier Law School.

- Western Sierra Law School has completed its sale to new owners Joshua and Erika Schoonover and the school is now undertaking its previously approved move to Oceanside, California.