



The State Bar *of California*

OPEN SESSION

AGENDA ITEM

IV.C. DECEMBER 2020

DATE: December 7, 2020

TO: Members, California Board of Legal Specialization

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

SUBJECT: Approval of Proposed Certification Revocations for Failure to Recertify

SUMMARY

Staff provide the attached recommendations for revocation of certification for failure to file recertification applications (Attachment A).

BACKGROUND

Program rules require certified specialists to recertify on or before the conclusion of their five-year certification terms.

Reminders have been sent to specialists via email through the Admissions Information Management System (AIMS) email service prior to, and after, their certification end date on the following schedule:

- Six months prior to certification end date
- Sixty days prior to certification end date
- Thirty days prior to certification end date
- Seven days after certification end date

In an effort to ensure contact with affected specialists, staff now also send an electronic reminder through the State Bar's email service 30 days after the certification end date.

At its September 2020 meeting, the CBLS approved an additional communication effort, requesting that staff also send a final 30-day notice through email and physical letter, which is being sent 60 days after a specialist's certification term end date. Staff have implemented this additional notice.

DISCUSSION

As of December 1, 2020, there are 84 certified specialists whose certification ended 90+ days ago, and have not submitted their application for recertification. Attachment A lists certified specialists who were due to recertify on varying dates through August 31 2020, but who failed to file applications for recertification and failed to request extensions. The following table provides a breakdown of those specialists by specialty area.

Specialty Area	# of Specialists Pending Recertification
Admiralty & Maritime Law	-
Appellate Law	5
Bankruptcy Law	3
Criminal Law	7
Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law	12
Family Law	27
Franchise & Distribution Law	2
Immigration & Nationality Law	6
Legal Malpractice Law	-
Taxation Law	3
Workers' Compensation Law	19

All specialists above have been sent a final 30-day notice by both electronic and physical mailing to recertify. Staff requests permission to close these certification records and send notice (again by email and by physical letter) informing these specialists that their certificate of specialization will now be revoked. This would be consistent with past CBLS action taken with certified specialists who failed to recertify.

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 recertify.

ATTACHMENT(S) LIST

- A. List of certified specialists who did not file recertification applications that were otherwise due before August 31, 2020