



# The State Bar of California

---

## CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION OPEN MEETING MINUTES

**The State Bar of California**  
**180 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105**  
**Friday, December 11, 2020, 9:08 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.**

A meeting of the California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLS) was convened on Friday, December 11, 2020 at 9:08 a.m. in open session with Vice Chair Mark A. Lester presiding.

The following members of the CBLS were present: Norma L. Acosta, Jeffrey T. Hammerschmidt, Mark A. Lester, Avi Levy, Natalie P. Vance, and Jake Yoon.

The following members of the CBLS were absent: Robert Hershenson

The following State Bar staff members were present: Amy C. Nuñez, Director; Audrey Ching, Assistant Director; Kenneth Holloway, Attorney; Janelle Delacruz, Program Specialist; and Ana Moreno, Program Specialist.

### **I. INFORMATION**

1. Vice Chair Lester welcomed CBLS and staff. Vice Chair Lester also welcomed member of the public, Jake Yoon, who was recently appointed to the CBLS and will be joining in the 2020-2021 State Bar year.
2. Audrey Ching gave reports on the status of:
  - a. several pending State Bar activities, including updates in response to COVID-19 on:
    - the State Bar operations; and
    - updates to the June First Year Law Student's Examination and July California Bar Examination, provisional licensure; and
  - b. several legal specialization program key indicators, including updates on:

- the Legal Specialization budget and staffing changes; and
  - program participant compliance with the program requirements.
3. Janelle Delacruz gave reports on the status of the initial certification application statuses.

## II. CONSENT

1. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, the September 18, 2020 CBLS open meeting minutes was approved.

Moved by Vance, Seconded by Acosta

Yes – Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy

No – N/A

Abstain – Yoon

Motion passes.

## III. ACTION

1. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, the recommendation of staff regarding the certification of certified specialists was denied.

Moved by Vance, Seconded by Levy

Yes – N/A

No – Acosta, Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance, Yoon

Abstain – N/A

Motion is lost.

2. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, the annual revocation of specialists who have not paid their 2020 Legal Specialization Annual Fee was approved.

Moved by Levy, Seconded by Acosta

Yes – Acosta, Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance, Yoon

No – N/A

Abstain – N/A

Motion passes.

3. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, the annual revocation of specialists who have not complied with the 2020 LSCLE reporting requirement was denied.

Moved by Vance, Seconded by Levy

Yes – N/A

No – Acosta, Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance, Yoon

Abstain – N/A

Motion lost.

4. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, the 2021 Legal Specialization Work Plan be recommended to the Board of Trustees was approved.

Moved by Hammerschmidt, Seconded by Vance

Yes – Acosta, Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance, Yoon

No – N/A

Abstain – N/A

Motion passes.

5. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, certified specialist Richard Gould-Saltman's request for a legal specialization program annual fee waiver was approved for 2021 only.

Moved by Vance, Seconded by Hammerschmidt

Yes – Acosta, Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance, Yoon

No – N/A

Abstain – N/A

Motion passes.

Seeing no other business, Chair Lester called the open session meeting to a close at 10:45 a.m. and the group convened into closed session.

At the conclusion of closed session, the group reconvened into open session, and the meeting was immediately adjourned at 11:25 a.m.