



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, June 4, 2021, 10:01 a.m.–11:24 a.m.**

A meeting of the California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLS) was convened on Friday, June 4, 2021 at 10:01 a.m. in open session with Vice Chair Mark A. Lester presiding. Chair Robert Hershenson then presided over the meeting when he arrived at 10:37 a.m.

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

The following State Bar staff members were present: Amy C. Nuñez, Director; Audrey Ching, Assistant Director; Lisa Cummins, Program Manager; Kenneth Holloway, Attorney; Jean Krasilnikoff, Attorney; Adrian Galang, Program Supervisor; Janelle Delacruz, Program Analyst; Janese Bodin, Program Specialist; Latrell Cabrigas, Program Specialist; and Ana Moreno, Program Specialist.

I. INFORMATION

1. Vice Chair Lester welcomed CBLS and staff.
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; 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. Ana Moreno gave an update on various 2021 Work Plan Initiatives.
- 4. Adrian Galang gave reports on the status of:
 - a. the 2021-2022 CBLS appointments; and
 - b. the Legal Specialization Reserve Fund Spend Down Initiatives. The CBLS provided the following options for staff to research:
 - 2022 annual fee holiday;
 - marketing expenses;
 - refund for passing exam;
 - reduction of fees for specialists 70 and older; and
 - continued exam fee reduction.
- 5. Latrell Cabrigas gave a report on the initial certification application statuses.
- 6. Janese Bodin gave a report on the 2021 Legal Specialist Examination Registrations.

II. CONSENT

1. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, the March 5, 2021 CBLS open meeting minutes was approved.

Moved by Levy, Seconded by Yoon

Yes – Hammerschmidt, Lester

No – N/A

Abstain – Acosta, Vance

Motion passes.

III. ACTION

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

Moved by Levy, Seconded by Hammerschmidt

Yes – Acosta, Lester, Vance, Yoon

No – N/A

Abstain – N/A

Motion passes.

2. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, the 2020 Annual Report of the California Board of Legal Specialization was approved.

Moved by Acosta, Seconded by Yoon

Yes – Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance, Yoon

No – N/A

Abstain – N/A

Motion passes.

3. **Action taken:** Upon motion made, seconded and adopted, the 2022 Legal Specialization Budget Reserve Spend Down Initiatives for Recommendation to the BOT for Final Approval was continued pending further research.

Moved by Hershenson, Seconded by Yoon

Yes – N/A

No – N/A

Abstain – Acosta, Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance

Motion passes.

Seeing no other business, Chair Hershenson called the open session meeting to a close at 11:06 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 11:24 a.m.