



The State Bar of California

OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEM IV.D. SEPTEMBER 2021

DATE: September 10, 2021

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 Applicant Portal 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 the affected specialists, staff also send the following notices, on the indicated schedule:

- Thirty days after certification end date, an emailed reminder through the State Bar's email service

- Sixty days after certification end date, a final physical mailing and an emailed notice through the State Bar's email service

DISCUSSION

As of September 1, 2021, there are 31 certified specialists whose certification are 90 days or before overdue, who have also failed to submit their application for recertification. Attachment A lists certified specialists who were due to recertify on varying dates through June 1, 2021, 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	2
Criminal Law	9
Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law	2
Family Law	7
Franchise & Distribution Law	-
Immigration & Nationality Law	-
Legal Malpractice Law	-
Taxation Law	-
Workers' Compensation Law	6

All specialists above have been sent the final 30-day notice by both electronic and physical mailing to recertify, as indicated in the schedule above. 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 and notified for failure to recertify.

ATTACHMENT LIST

- List of certified specialists who did not file recertification applications that were otherwise due before June 1, 2021