



The State Bar of California

AGENDA ITEM

MARCH 18 – Minutes Approval – December 17, 2021, Meeting, Open Session

Regular Meeting of the California Board of Legal Specialization
Teleconference
Open Session Minutes
Friday, December 17, 2021
10:04 a.m.–11:58 a.m.

Time meeting Commenced: The California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLS) meeting commenced at 10:04 a.m. The CBLS moved to closed session at 11:44 a.m. The CBLS returned to open session at 11:58 a.m.

Time meeting Adjourned: 11:58 a.m.

Chair: Mark A. Lester

Secretary: Adrian Galang

Members Present: Norma Acosta, Jeffrey T. Hammerschmidt, Avi Levy, and Natalie Vance.

Members Absent: Jake Yoon

State Bar Staff Present: Donna Hershkowitz, Chief Program Officer; Amy C. Nuñez, Director; Audrey Ching, Assistant Director; Lisa Cummins, Program Manager; Adrian Galang, Program Supervisor; Janelle Delacruz, Program Analyst; Janese Bodin, Program Specialist; Latrell Cabrigas, Program Specialist; and Ana Moreno, Program Specialist.

OPEN SESSION

I. CHAIR'S REPORT

A. Roll Call

The CBLS meeting was called to order by Chair Lester. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

B. Public Comment

Chair Lester called for public comment, inquiring as to whether there were person(s) who wished to comment on any agenda item. There were no members of the public who wished to speak on any agenda item.

II. CONSENT

A. Approval of September 10, 2021 California Board of Legal Specialization Public Meeting Minutes

Moved by Vance, Seconded by Hammerschmidt

Ayes – (5) Acosta, Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (1) Yoon

Motion passes.

III. STAFF REPORTS

A. Update on 2021-2022 CBLS Appointments

Adrian Galang provided an oral report.

B. Update on 2021-2022 CBLS Meeting Schedule

Adrian Galang provided an oral report on the 2022 CBLS meeting dates.

C. Recent Developments

Audrey Ching provided an oral report on the status of several pending State Bar activities, including updates in response to COVID-19 on:

- the State Bar operations; and
- updates to the October First Year Law Student's Examination and February California Bar Examination.

IV. BUSINESS

A. Review of Report on Financial and Operational Key Indicators

Audrey Ching provided an oral report on the status of several legal specialization program key indicators, including updates on:

- the Legal Specialization budget; and
- program participant compliance with the program requirements.

B. Review of Report on Initial Certification Application Statuses

Latrell Cabrigas provided an oral report.

C. Review of Report on Administration of the 2021 Legal Specialist Examination

Janese Bodin provided an oral report.

D. Approval of Certification Revocations for Failure to Recertify

Upon motion made, seconded, and adopted, the updated recommendation of staff to table and continue the revocations for failure to recertify of certified specialists until the next CBLS meeting was approved.

Moved by Vance, Seconded by Levy

Ayes – (5) Acosta, Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (1) Yoon

Motion passes.

E. Approval of Annual Certification Revocations for Failure to Pay the 2021 Legal Specialization Program Annual Fee

Upon motion made, seconded, and adopted, the updated recommendation of staff regarding the annual revocation of specialists who are not in State Bar active status for failure to pay the annual fee was approved.

Moved by Levy, Seconded by Acosta

Ayes – (4) Acosta, Lester, Levy, Vance

Noes – (1) Hammerschmidt

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (1) Yoon

Motion passes.

F. Approval of Annual Certification Revocations for Failure to Report Group 2 2021 Legal Specialist Continuing Legal Education Compliance

Upon motion made, the recommendation of staff regarding the annual revocation of specialists for failure to report 2021 LSCLE compliance failed due to the lack of second.

Moved by Levy, Seconded by none

Ayes – (0)

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (1) Yoon

Motion lost.

G. Update on CBLS 2021 Work Plan Initiatives and Approval of 2022 Work Plan

Ana Moreno provided an oral report.

- Upon motion made, the recommendation of staff regarding the annual revocation of specialists for failure to report 2021 LSCLE compliance failed due to the lack of second.

Moved by Levy, Seconded by none

Ayes – (0)

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (1) Yoon

Motion lost.

- Upon motion made, seconded, and adopted, the recommendation of staff to bring the workplan back to the CBLS for substantive updates needed to ensure alignment with the State Bar Strategic Plan to be adopted in 2022 was approved.

Moved by Hammerschmidt, Seconded by Acosta

Ayes – (5) Acosta, Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (1) Yoon

Motion passes.

H. Review of Request to Delegate Authority to the CBLS Chair to Appoint New Specialty Area Consulting Groups

Upon motion made, seconded, and adopted, the recommendation of staff that in connection with the recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve the creation of a specialty area consulting group in the area of privacy law, the CBLS recommends that the Board of Trustees delegates to the Chair and Vice Chair of the California Board of Legal Specialization authority to appoint the members of the consulting group was approved.

Moved by Vance, Seconded by Levy

Ayes – (5) Acosta, Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (1) Yoon

Motion passes.

I. Review of Report of Legal Specialization Communications and Updates on New Communication Schedule

Adrian Galang provided an oral report.

J. Review of Final 2022 Legal Specialization Budget Reserve Spend Down Initiatives

Upon motion made, seconded, and adopted, the recommendation of staff that the CBLS delegates to Public Member Jake Yoon authority to review with staff, and determine if an updated reserve spend down plan can be transmitted to the Board of Trustees for final approval was approved.

Moved by Vance, Seconded by Acosta

Ayes – (4) Acosta, Hammerschmidt, Lester, Levy, Vance

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (1) Levy

Absent – (1) Yoon

Motion passes.

CLOSED SESSION

Seeing no other business, Chair Lester called the open session meeting to a close at 11:44 a.m. and the CBLS convened into closed session.

OPEN SESSION

At the conclusion of closed session, the CBLS reconvened into open session at 11:58 a.m. at which time the chair adjourned the meeting.

ADJOURN