



**OPEN SESSION
AGENDA ITEM O-401
APRIL 2022
COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS**

DATE: April 22, 2022

TO: Members, Committee of Bar Examiners

FROM: Natalie Leonard, Principal Program Analyst, Office of Admissions

SUBJECT: Action on Major Change – Change of Headquarters - American International School of Law

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

American International School of Law (American International) requests the Committee's approval of its major change request seeking ratification of its move from one office building to another within Irvine, California. (Attachment A). It is recommended that the Committee should grant and ratify this request.

BACKGROUND

An unaccredited, registered law school must request and obtain the Committee of Bar Examiners' (Committee) approval before making a major change. "[C]hanging the location of the law school's administrative office or the location of a branch," is considered a major change under Rules 4.245 and 4.246(B) of the Unaccredited Law School Rules and Guidelines.

This provides the Committee with an opportunity to confirm that disruption of student study will be kept to a minimum and that the new facility will have the capacity necessary to deliver the services that the law school indicates it will offer.

DISCUSSION

American International is an unaccredited, correspondence law school located in Irvine, CA. According to its annual report, as of September 15, 2021, it enrolled 87 students in its JD program.

American International submitted the attached Request for Major Change to ratify its move from one office building to another within the city of Irvine. The law school planned the move before it understood that prior approval was needed, and has since confirmed an understanding that prior approval is needed for any future moves. The law school promptly filed a major change request once it realized this was required.

The new space is approximately 11 miles from the prior location, and it is larger than the prior location. It includes two offices as well as a shared conference room. While students are not required to visit the facility at any point in their study, they are able to do so, and the law school indicated that this new space can better receive student visits.

The new address is owned one-third by the holding company of Nitesh Patel, sole shareholder of the law school, and two-thirds by the owners of the law school's prior location.

Because the school's programs are fully remote, student study was not disrupted during the move, which took place in fall 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee of Bar Examiners grant and ratify this Request for Major Change, pursuant to Rule 4.245, and as defined by Rule 4.246(B) of the Unaccredited Law School Rules.

Once the move is completed, staff can schedule a video call to confirm completion of the move concurrent with the law school's inspection that will be scheduled for later this year.

PROPOSED MOTION

Should the Committee of Bar Examiners agree with staff recommendations, the following motion should be made:

MOVE, that the request submitted pursuant to Rule 4.245 and Rule 4.246(B) of the Unaccredited Law School Rules by American International School of Law be received and filed; and that the request be granted ratifying the law school's

relocation to Cowan Avenue, Irvine, California effective immediately.

ATTACHMENT(S) LIST

- A.** American International School of Law Major Change Request – Change of Administrative Headquarters