



The State Bar *of California*

OPEN AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM O-100

APRIL 2022

COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

THE COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS OF THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

April 22, 2022

Zoom Meeting
State Bar of California Offices

A zoom meeting of the Committee of Bar Examiners of The State Bar of California convened in open session at 9:03 a.m., Friday, April 22, 2022, Chair Alexander C. Lawrence, Jr. presiding. Officers and members present were: Chair Alexander C. Lawrence, Jr., Vice-Chair Paul A. Kramer, James A. Bolton, Ph.D., Robert S. Brody, Michael Cao, M.D., Alex H. Chan, Kareem Gongora, Michael A. Iseri, Larry Kaplan, Vincent Reyes, Judge Shelly Torrealba and David A. Torres, Dr. Don Ajené Wilcoxson. Members James H. Efting, Dolores Heisinger, Judge James Herman, Esther P. Lin, and Bethany J. Peak were absent. Members Kareem Gongora and Michael Iseri joined at approximately 9:09 a.m., and member Judge Shelly Torrealba joined the meeting at approximately 9:40 a.m. State Bar staff members in attendance were: Donna Hershkowitz, Chief of Programs; Amy C. Nuñez, Director III, Admissions; Audrey Ching, Assistant Director, Admissions; Tammy Campbell, Program Manager II, Operations and Management; Tara Clark, Program Manager II, Moral Character; Christina Doell, Program Manager II, Examination Grading; Lisa Cummins, Principal Program Analyst, Examination Development; Natalie Leonard, Principal Program Analyst, Educational Standards; Devan McFarland, Senior Administrative Assistant, Admissions; David Lane, Senior Attorney, Moral Character; Caroline Holmes, Attorney III, General Counsel; Jean Krasilnikoff, Attorney III, General Counsel; Ezra Angelus, Program Coordinator, Admissions; and Sonia Delen, Board of Trustees liaison. The open session portion was concluded at approximately 11:46 a.m. The meeting went into closed session at approximately 11:46 a.m. The closed session paused for lunch at 12:25 p.m. The meeting resumed closed session at approximately 12:55 p.m. The meeting adjourned for the day at 2:30 p.m.

The meeting went back into closed session at approximately 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 23, 2022. Attorney members who were present were Robert S. Brody, Alex Chan, Michael A.

Iseri, Paul A. Kramer, Esther P. Lin, and David A. Torres. State Bar staff in attendance on Saturday were Donna Hershkowitz, Amy C. Nuñez, Audrey Ching, and Lisa Cummins. The meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Committee of Bar Examiners received no written public comments and one public comment unrelated to the Office of Admissions.

MARCH 18, 2022 COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that the minutes taken during the public session of the meeting on March 18, 2022, be approved.

Moved by Gongora, seconded by Iseri.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Brody – yes

Cao – yes

Chan – yes

Gongora – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Reyes – yes

Torres – yes

Wilcoxson – abstain

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH STATISTICAL INDICATORS

It was by common consent agreed that the January, February, and March Key Indicators for the Office of Admissions/Committee of Bar Examiners be received and filed.

SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 17, 2022 COMMITTEE MEETING

It was by common consent agreed that the schedule for the June 17, 2022 Meeting, which will be held via a Zoom webinar, be received and filed.

EXAMINATIONS

2022 Report on Examination Goals

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that the report on 2022 Examination Subcommittee goals be approved.

Moved by Brody, seconded by Iseri.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes

Brody – yes

Cao – yes

Chan – yes

Gongora – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Reyes – yes

Torrealba – yes

Torres – yes

Wilcoxson – yes

OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

REPORT ON 2021 – 2022 OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT GOALS

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that the report on 2021 – 2022 Operations and Management goals be approved.

Moved by Brody, seconded by Cao.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes

Brody – yes

Cao – yes

Chan – yes

Gongora – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Reyes – yes

Torrealba – yes

Torres – yes

Wilcoxson – yes

EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

ACTION ON PROBATION OR TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION FOR SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that the Committee of Bar Examiners find that San Francisco International University College of Law is out of compliance with the Rules for Unaccredited Law Schools.

FURTHER MOVE, that after completing all steps in the noncompliance process and

carefully considering all facts before it, the Committee of Bar Examiners terminates the registration of San Francisco International University College of Law effective immediately. This terminates the law school's ability to offer a JD program, and also terminates its ability to offer any educational classes that fulfill the legal education requirements toward establishing eligibility to take the examination.

FURTHER MOVE, that the law school retain all student records or otherwise designate a custodian to provide student records upon request.

Moved by Brody, seconded by Reyes.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes

Brody – yes

Cao – yes

Chan – yes

Gongora – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Reyes – yes

Torrealba – yes

Torres – yes

Wilcoxson – yes

MAJOR CHANGE – CHANGE OF HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF LAW

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that the Committee of Bar Examiners 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.

Moved by Gongora, seconded by Brody.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes

Brody – yes

Cao – yes

Chan – yes

Gongora – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Reyes – yes

Torrealba – yes

Torres – yes
Wilcoxson – yes

MAJOR CHANGE – CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL OF LAW AT NORTHCENTRAL UNIVERSITY

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that the Committee of Bar Examiners that the Committee of Bar Examiners accept and file John F. Kennedy University School of Law at Northcentral University's Request for Major Change; and that the school's request to move its administrative offices from the prior La Jolla location to 9388 Lightwave Avenue, San Diego, be granted and ratified effective immediately.

Moved by Brody, seconded by Reyes.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes
Brody – yes
Cao – yes
Chan – yes
Gongora – yes
Iseri – yes
Kaplan – yes
Kramer – yes
Reyes – yes
Torrealba – yes
Torres – yes
Wilcoxson – yes

MAJOR CHANGE – CHANGE OF NAME
SANTA BARBARA AND VENTURA COLLEGES OF LAW

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that the Committee of Bar Examiners accept and file Santa Barbara and Ventura College of Law's Major Change Request to Change its name to The Colleges of Law and grant the change immediately. The law school is directed to document the change of service marks, materials, and communications in its 2022 Annual Report.

Moved by Brody, seconded by Gongora.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes
Brody – yes
Cao – yes
Chan – yes
Gongora – yes
Iseri – yes
Kaplan – yes
Kramer – yes

Reyes – yes
Torrealba – yes
Torres – yes
Wilcoxson – yes

MAJOR CHANGE - ACQUIESCENCE TO AMENDED NON-JD PROGRAM
SANTA BARBARA AND VENTURA COLLEGES OF LAW

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that the Committee of Bar Examiners accept the Santa Barbara and Ventura College of Law's Application for Acquiescence to its proposed Master of Arts in Law program be received and filed, and the request for acquiescence be granted.

Moved by Brody, seconded by Torres.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes
Brody – yes
Cao – yes
Gongora – yes
Iseri – yes
Kaplan – yes
Kramer – yes
Reyes – yes
Torrealba – yes
Torres – yes
Wilcoxson – yes

MAJOR CHANGE – MONTEREY COLLEGE OF LAW EMPIRE BRANCH CAMPUS
AND EMPIRE COLLEGE SCHOOL OF LAW CLOSURE

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that the Committee of Bar Examiners receive and file Monterey College of Law and Empire College School of Law's Joint Request for Major Change "to transition Empire College School of Law from a stand-alone, private California accredited law school into an accredited branch campus of MCL," as set forth in Attachments A-I, and approve the request.

MOVE, that the Committee approve Monterey College of Law's request to establish a branch campus at the current site of Empire College School of Law to be called Empire College of Law, a branch of Monterey College of Law, to open in July 2022, offer introductory Pre-1L classes beginning in spring 2023, and JD classes beginning in July 2023.

MOVE, the Committee grant Empire College of Law's request to admit its final JD and MLS class cohorts to begin class in fall 2022 and to begin a teach out of those students through graduation of the last MLS class, projected to be summer 2024, and the last JD class, projected to be summer 2026, allowing both the MLS and JD students the opportunity to complete their degrees at ECSOL; and to close upon the scheduled graduation or transfer of

all students in that cohort on or before spring 2026.

MOVE, that the Committee further acknowledges and accepts that ESCOL has decided to voluntarily terminate its previous plan to convert to a nonprofit entity and to remain in its current, approved for-profit status.

MOVE, that the law schools are directed to provide status as to the operation of the new Empire College of Law branch campus and teach out at the existing Empire College School of Law in their respective periodic compliance reports due November 15, 2022.

Moved by Torres, seconded by Brody.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Brody – yes

Cao – yes

Gongora – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Reyes – yes

Torres – yes

Wilcoxson – yes

ACTION ON PERIODIC INSPECTION OF UNIVERSITY OF SAN JOAQUIN COLLEGE OF LAW

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that that the Committee of Bar Examiners receives and files the 2021 Periodic Inspection Report of San Joaquin College of Law, and the response from the law school accepting the report.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the report's recommendations be approved; that the law school be directed to document completion of the recommendations as part of the law school's 2022 Annual Report;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the accreditation of San Joaquin College of Law be continued; and that the law school's next periodic inspection be scheduled for fall 2026, unless the Committee determines that an inspection is needed sooner.

Moved by Torres, seconded by Gongora.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes

Brody – yes

Cao – yes

Gongora – yes

Iseri – yes

Kaplan – yes

Kramer – yes

Reyes – yes

Torres – yes
Wilcoxson – yes

APPROVAL OF REPORT ON 2021–2022 EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS GOALS

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that the Committee of Bar Examiners approve the report on the 2021–2022 Educational Standards goals.

Moved by Brody, seconded by Torres.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes
Brody – yes
Cao – yes
Gongora – yes
Iseri – yes
Kaplan – yes
Kramer – yes
Reyes – yes
Torrealba – yes
Torres – yes
Wilcoxson – yes

MORAL CHARACTER

REPORT ON 2021 – 2022 MORAL CHARACTER GOALS

It was moved, seconded, and duly carried that the report on 2021 – 2022 Moral Character goals and accomplishments be approved.

Moved by Brody, seconded by Torres.

The motion passed. Roll call vote:

Bolton – yes
Brody – yes
Cao – yes
Gongora – yes
Iseri – yes
Kaplan – yes
Reyes – yes
Torrealba – yes
Torres – yes
Wilcoxson – yes

ADJOURNMENT

Having concluded all the business scheduled for consideration during the open and closed sessions of the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m., Friday, April 22, 2022.