



# The State Bar of California

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## Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC) Law School Fellowship Grants Committee Meeting Teleconference

Open Session Minutes  
Monday, March 21, 2023  
12:02 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Time Meeting Commenced:**

The LSTFC Law School Fellowship Grants Committee meeting commenced in open session at 12:02 p.m.

**Time Meeting Adjourned:**

1:30 p.m.

**Chair:**

Banafsheh Akhlaghi

**Committee Coordinator:**

Elizabeth Hom

**Members Present:**

Venetta Campbell, Novella Coleman, Judge Kristin Rosi

**Members Absent:**

None

### OPEN SESSION

**1. Call to Order**

The LSTFC Law School Fellowship Grants Committee was called to order by Chair Akhlaghi.

**2. Roll Call**

Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**3.1 Open Session Minutes: January 23, 2023**

**RESOLVED**, that the Council on Access and Fairness approves the January 23, 2023, meeting minutes.

*Moved by Rosi seconded by Campbell.*

*Ayes – (4) Campbell, Coleman, Rosi, Akhlaghi*

*Noes – (0)*

*Abstain – (0)*

*Absent – (0)*

*Motion carries.*

## **REGULAR CALENDAR**

### **4. Law School Fellowship Grants**

#### **4.1 Initial Calibration of Selected Law School Fellowship Grants Application**

**Presenter:** Elizabeth Hom, Program Director, Office of Access & Inclusion

Presentation, discussion, and calibration of selected applications.

Committee reviewed and calibrated scores for the following applications: Family Violence Law Center, Legal Aid of Sonoma County, and Neighborhood Legal Services.

Committee members discussed the scoring rubric selection criteria categories: impact, supervision, support, and recruitment as well as the funding priority categories: serves rural population, serves underserved populations, and serves clients regardless of immigration or citizenship status. Each category is assigned a score that corresponds to a ranking of exceeds expectations, meets expectations, below expectations, or not addressed.

The committee discussed and clarified factors considered in ranking a category exceeds expectations. For impact, factors include the availability of legal services in the particular region or that the grant would allow an organization to provide funding for a fellow for the first time.

For supervision, factors include the number of years a supervisor had, the levels of supervision fellows had access to, and the availability of on the spot supervision provided to fellows.

In the area of support, factors include the engagement of fellows by supervisors, the type of training provided to fellows, and the ability to expand previous training protocols to become more robust were considered.

For recruitment, factors include casting a wide net for applicants through local and affinity bar associations, use of developed criteria to select fellows, and if the recruited fellow had experience with or ties to the community they served.

For serves rural population, factors include whether services in rural areas are in Medical Service Study Areas designated rural or frontier areas and the depth and breadth of the fellow's anticipated work in rural areas.

For serves underserved populations, applicants were expected to describe how they would provide legal services to underserved populations other than those in rural areas or who were within 200% of the poverty threshold because those categories were considered elsewhere in the application.

In the category serves clients regardless of immigration or citizenship status, committee members discussed the restrictions on serving undocumented people imposed on some grantees by another funder. Aligned with other discretionary grant committees, the LSFG Committee determined that those applicants would not be disadvantaged because that would ultimately disadvantage low-income Californians in those organization's service areas.

**ADJOURN**