



The State Bar of California

OPEN SESSION

AGENDA ITEM

50-2 JULY 2023

BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE III.A

DATE: July 20, 2023

TO: Members, Board Executive Committee
Members, Board of Trustees

FROM: Louisa Ayrapetyan, Board Secretary, Office of the Executive Director

SUBJECT: Approval of Annual Appointment of Officers and Members of State Bar Subentities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This agenda item presents the candidates recommended for appointment to the Committee of Bar Examiners (CBE), California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLS), Council on Access and Fairness (COAF), Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct (COPRAC), California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. (CRLA), Client Security Fund (CSF) Commission, Lawyer Assistance Program Oversight Committee (LAPOC), Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC), and the Review Committee of the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation (RJNE), for the 2023–2024 committee year and the Judicial Nominees Evaluation (JNE) Commission for the 2024–2025 committee year.

Officers are named by the Board, and each serve a one-year term. The current appointment practice, which staff recommends continuing, is that the current vice-chair should be recommended as chair for the upcoming committee year.¹

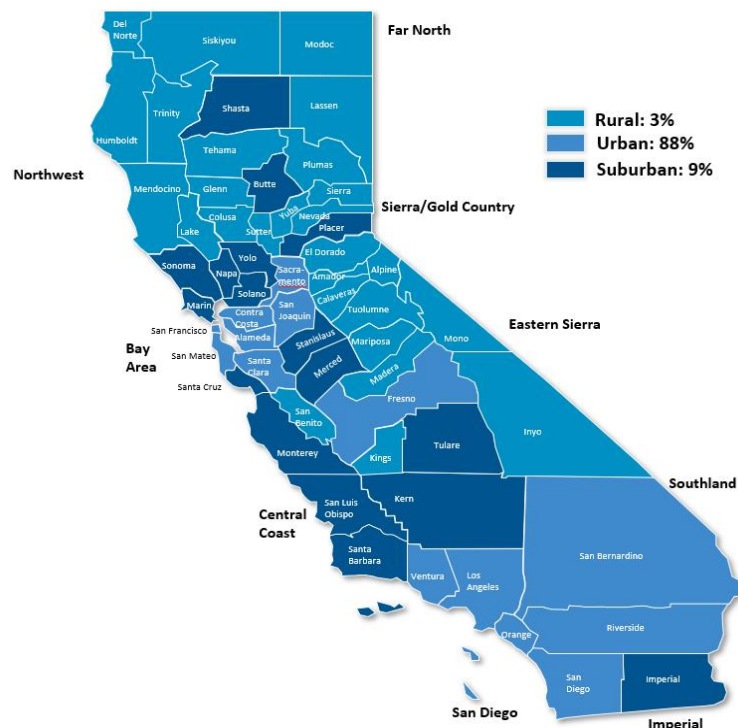
¹ See, [Appendix B to the Board of Trustees Policy Manual](#), Appointment and Composition Requirements or Guidelines: “For leadership continuity, committee staff will generally nominate the committee member serving as Vice-Chair to serve as Chair in the committee year following service as Vice-Chair.”

BACKGROUND

Each year, the State Bar recruits diverse candidates—including attorneys, nonattorneys, and former judicial officers—to serve on various State Bar committees. The State Bar is most effective when membership of its committees represents the rich racial, ethnic, geographic, and professional diversity of Californians. To that end, in recent years subentity appointment recruitment efforts have been expanded. For this recruitment cycle, appointments staff launched an extensive recruitment campaign in March 2023, targeting nonprofit and community-based organizations, organizations whose members filled a specialized niche sought by a committee, and local and affinity bar associations, among others. Current and alumni committee members were encouraged to share and individually recruit members they felt were good fits. Multimodal outreach efforts were employed including direct email, paid social media campaigns, and individual outreach. A full summary of the State Bar’s recruitment efforts can be found as Attachment K.

This comprehensive recruitment strategy resulted in: (1) 100 attorney applicants; (2) 79 public member applicants; and (3) 7 judicial applicants.

Despite these efforts, significant work is required to improve geographic representation across the state. As it stands, the majority of committee members, both existing and those recommended for appointment, are based in urban areas—making up 88 percent of the total. In contrast, suburban and rural areas comprise 9 and 3 percent of current and prospective appointees, respectively. Staff and the Board’s Appointments Liaisons, Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, will focus on addressing the lack of suburban and rural representation in future appointments cycles. For a deeper understanding, a comprehensive [workbook](#) is available that offers in-depth analysis of each subentity’s demographics, including potential appointees should the Board approve.



On July 7, 2023, and July 17, 2023, coordinators of each subentity met with the Board Appointments Liaisons, Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, to present their recommended candidates for appointment.

DISCUSSION

COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS (CBE)

The CBE oversees the California Bar Examination, moral character determination process, and the First-Year Law Students' Examination. The CBE makes recommendations for rules and guidelines governing admissions functions; recommends qualified applicants to the California Supreme Court for admission to practice law in California; accredits law schools; registers unaccredited law schools; and studies and reports on proposed changes in the law and other matters concerning requirements for admission to practice law in California.

CBE consists of 19 members. The Supreme Court appoints 10 attorneys, while the governor, the Senate Rules Committee, and the Speaker of the Assembly each appoint 3 public members. At least 1 judicial officer and 1 attorney, admitted to the State Bar within three years, must be among the Supreme Court's appointees. The State Bar nominates candidates for the Supreme Court's consideration as per rule 9.4 of the California Rules of Court. The Board of Trustees submits a list of nominated candidates, identifying at least 3 candidates for each vacancy, if possible. The CBE terms last four years with the possibility of reappointment for a maximum of three terms.

Appointment of New Members and Alternates to CBE

Thirty-one applications were received for two vacancies: 8 from public member applicants, 22 from lawyer applicants, and 1 from a current judicial officer. Applicants from the 2022 cycle were also considered.

In reviewing applications for appointment to CBE, a concerted effort was made to identify diversity on the basis of geography, as well as race, gender, and professional background. CBE leadership considered each applicant's ability to commit to public service as an additional factor in these considerations.

A list of applicants recommended as new members and alternates is provided below:

1. Nathan Mubashar (attorney member) – Corona, CA
2. Alan Yochelson (attorney member) – Los Angeles, CA

Proposed Alternates

1. Jennifer Leland (attorney member) – Los Angeles, CA
2. Aaron G. Filler (attorney member) – Santa Monica, CA
3. Patrick R. Dixon (attorney member) – Santa Ana, CA

Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, the Board's Appointments Liaisons, have reviewed and are in support of CBE leadership's recommendations.

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION (CBLS)

The CBLS provides guidance on policies and protocols for certification of specialists in specified subject matter areas; develops testing and legal education criteria for specialists; provides recommended changes to program rules; and advises the Board of Trustees on the establishment of specialty fields.

The CBLS consists of seven members, up to two of whom may be public members. The CBLS has prioritized diversity based on legal specialties represented, as well as race/ethnicity, gender, and profession. Demonstration of each applicant's ability to commit to public service weighed in on these considerations.

Appointment of New Members and Alternates to CBLS

Thirty-nine applications were received for CBLS positions, with 24 from public member applicants and 15 from attorney applicants. One letter of interest was received each for the chair and vice-chair positions.

CBLS leadership and staff reviewed all applications for appointment. Recruitment of a second public member was prioritized due to current underrepresentation on the board.

A list of applicants recommended as new members and alternates is provided below:

1. Katrina Darlene Richard (public member) – Los Angeles, CA
2. Dana Marie Rueckert (attorney member) – San Diego, CA

Proposed Alternates

1. Pamela M. Bennett (public member) – La Verne, CA
2. Mark Abbott Lester (attorney member) – Camarillo, CA

Appointment of Officers to CBLS

One letter of interest was received for the chair position and one letter of interest for the vice-chair position.

Staff recommends that Jeffrey T. Hammerschmidt be appointed to the chair position and that Michael D. Lee be appointed to the vice-chair position, each for a one-year term. Mr. Hammerschmidt is currently the vice-chair on CBLS and actively supports the legal specialization program, encouraging other licensees to pursue certification, and referring specialists to join the Legal Specialist Examination Development and Grading Team. Mr. Lee has previously served as member on the Bankruptcy Law Working Group of the CBLS; his diverse background contributes a valuable perspective to the CBLS.

Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, the Board's Appointments Liaisons, have reviewed and are in support of CBLS leadership's recommendations.

COUNCIL ON ACCESS AND FAIRNESS (COAF)

The 10-member COAF supports the Board of Trustees in effectuating the State Bar's DEI goals and objectives, which include: pipeline to the legal profession, retention and career advancement, and judicial diversity.

COAF consists of judges, lawyers, and public members from diverse practice settings and constituencies. New members are expected to have a working knowledge of DEI issues, a record of leadership in improving outcomes, and the ability to engage in strategic visioning focused on measurable change.

Appointment of New Members to COAF

Eighty-three applications were received for COAF positions, with 42 from public member applicants and 41 from attorney applicants. One letter of interest was received each for the chair position and vice-chair positions.

COAF leadership and staff reviewed and discussed all applications for appointment. A list of applicants recommended as new members is provided below:

1. Arinolayemi "Yemi" Adegbonmire (attorney member) – Inglewood, CA
2. Terra Davis (public member) – Irvine, CA
3. Tristan E.H. Higgins (attorney member) – La Jolla, CA
4. Jazzirelle Hill (public member) – Los Angeles, CA

Appointment of Officers to COAF

One letter of interest was received for the chair position and one letter of interest for the vice-chair position.

As a result of expiring terms for four members, the resignation of a COAF member due to an appointment to the Board earlier this year, and the relatively short tenure of some of COAF's remaining members, COAF leadership and staff are concerned about continuity of knowledge and experience on the subentity to maintain momentum on the myriad long-term projects COAF is involved with. Additionally, consistent COAF leadership for the upcoming term would provide the opportunity for further knowledge sharing and leadership development with remaining and new COAF members. With these considerations in mind, staff recommends that Judge Kristin Rosi and Judge Michael Rhoads be reappointed to an additional one-year term as chair and vice-chair, respectively. Both Judge Rosi and Judge Rhoads have demonstrated their commitment to supporting the State Bar's diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) strategies and goals with their enthusiastic participation and leadership. Judge Rosi's appointment would require a one-year extension to her tenure, as she already served for four years.

Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, the Board's Appointments Liaisons, have reviewed and are in support of COAF leadership's recommendations.

COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND CONDUCT (COPRAC)

COPRAC addresses matters involving professional ethics. The committee helps educate and provide guidance to attorneys, judges, and the public about the ethical duties of an attorney. The committee's work includes: (1) drafting advisory opinions on issues of professional ethics;

(2) drafting arbitration advisories to provide guidance to fee arbitrators; (3) studying and recommending changes to the Rules of Professional Conduct; (4) conducting studies and providing consultation to the Board of Trustees on professional responsibility issues; and (5) engaging in educational and outreach programs on legal ethics topics, including conducting an annual ethics symposium.

COPRAC consists of 13 members, including a chair, vice-chair, and advisor, appointed by the Board of Trustees.

Appointment of New Members and Alternates to COPRAC

COPRAC leadership and staff reviewed all applications for appointment and agreed that a recent applicant from the 2022–2023 appointments cycle, who was a past COPRAC alternate, should be reconsidered for appointment. Additionally, COPRAC leadership and OPC staff contacted a potential applicant who presented at COPRAC’s 26th Annual Ethics Symposium based on her strong presentation and experience demonstrated during the program. A list of applicants recommended as new members and alternates is provided below:

1. Deepika Ravi (attorney member) – Washington, D.C.
2. Mary Grace Guzman (public member) – Martinez, CA

Proposed Alternates

1. Justin Denlinger (attorney member) – Los Angeles, CA
2. Anthony Khoury (attorney member) – Bakersfield, CA
3. James Banks (attorney member) – Roseville, CA

Appointment of Officers to COPRAC

One letter of interest was received for the chair position and one letter of interest for the vice-chair position.

Staff recommends appointing the current vice-chair, Brandon Krueger, to another one-year term as chair.

This year, two candidates, both highly involved and qualified, sought the vice-chair position. COPRAC leadership and OPC staff discussed and recommend Cassidy Chivers to be appointed to vice-chair due to her current role as lead drafter for two ethics opinions and member of various working groups, including rule 8.3, civility, and paraprofessional public comment.

In [July 2021](#), the Board approved the reinstatement of the advisor position. The advisor is a one-year appointment, filled by the individual who served as the committee chair in the immediate-preceding year, and is subject to Board appointment as part of the yearly committee appointment process. Staff recommends appointing Sarah Banola, the outgoing chair, as the next advisor for a one-year term.

Melanie Shelby, the Board’s Appointments Liaison², reviewed and is in support of COPRAC leadership’s recommendations.

² Vice-Chair Stallings recused from the discussion regarding COPRAC’s recommendations for appointment.

CALIFORNIA RURAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE, INC. (CRLA)

Section 4.15.3 of the Board of Trustees Policy Manual authorizes the Board of Trustees to make appointments to the governing bodies of certain legal aid programs in California. These programs are federal Legal Services Corporation (LSC) grantees. CRLA, a nonprofit law firm founded in 1966 to provide free civil legal services to low-income residents of California's rural counties, is one such provider.

CRLA has a 45-member board. Eight members must be State Bar of California appointees and licensees.

Appointment of New Members and Alternates to CRLA

This year, the terms of four attorney members are expected to expire in July 2023. After reviewing applications, the CRLA board strongly supports the appointment of the following new members, reappointment of existing members, and alternates:

1. James Head (attorney member) – Oakland, CA
2. David Tsai (attorney member) – San Francisco, CA
3. Abeer Ibrahim (attorney member) – San Jose, CA
4. Maria de la Luz Olaguez (attorney member) – South Pasadena, CA

In addition, CRLA also supports the reappointment of the following members:

1. Camille Pannu (attorney member) – Irvine, CA
2. Alejandro Delgado (attorney member) – Los Angeles, CA
3. Peter Carson (attorney member) – San Francisco, CA
4. David Martinez (attorney members) – Los Angeles, CA

Proposed Alternates

1. Jessica Natalie Melgar Alvarez (attorney member) – San Jose, CA
2. Magdalena Casas (attorney member) – Van Nuys, CA

Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, the Board's Appointments Liaisons, have reviewed and are in support of CRLA leadership's recommendations.

CLIENT SECURITY FUND (CSF) COMMISSION

The CSF consists of five members serving four-year terms, appointed by the Board of Trustees. Members may be lawyers or nonattorneys. Out of five members, a maximum of three may be present or former licensees of the State Bar or admitted to practice before any court in the United States. For 2023–2024, there will be no vacancies; however, the chair and vice-chair positions need to be named by the Board. The chair and vice-chair serve a one-year term and may be reappointed at the Board's discretion, pursuant to section 4.9 Term of Membership of the Board Policy Manual.

Appointment of Officers to the CSF Commission

The CSF Commission considered the appointment of officers given the upcoming expiration of the current terms of the chair and vice-chair at its May 18, 2023, meeting, and recommended

that current Chair Melanie O'Day be reappointed to the position of chair and current Vice-Chair Fenglan Liu be reappointed to the position of vice-chair of the commission.

Chair O'Day, an attorney at Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), conducts investigative exams of securities brokers and collaborates with FINRA attorneys to determine charges and appropriate restitution. Ms. Liu is a sole practitioner with 30 years of experience specializing in immigration, criminal defense, and family law.

Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, the Board's Appointments Liaisons, have reviewed and are in support of CSF leadership's recommendations.

LAWYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (LAPOC)

This committee oversees the operation of the Lawyer Assistance Program as necessary to establish policies, practices, and procedures to support the program goal of offering education and rehabilitative programs to attorneys, former attorneys, State Bar applicants, and law students suffering from substance use and mental health disorders. LAPOC consists of 12 members serving four-year terms. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 6231, the Board of Trustees appoints six members to LAPOC; the committee must include:

- Two members who are licensed mental health professionals with knowledge and expertise in the identification and treatment of substance abuse and mental illness;
- One member who is a physician with knowledge and expertise in the identification and treatment of alcoholism and substance abuse;
- One member of the board of directors of a statewide nonprofit organization established for the purpose of assisting lawyers with alcohol or substance abuse problems, which has been in continuous operation for a minimum of five years; and
- Two members who are lawyers, at least one of whom is in recovery and has at least five years of continuous sobriety.

Appointment of New Members and Alternates to LAPOC

Following review of previous applications, LAPOC leadership and staff recommend reappointment of one existing member and appointing a new member who was previously an LAPOC alternate during the 2022–2023 appointments cycle. A list of applicants recommended as new members and alternates is provided below:

1. Christina Salazar (public member; mental health professional position) – Long Beach, CA
2. James Heiting (attorney member; reappointment; statewide nonprofit position) – Wrightwood, CA

Proposed Alternates

1. Ashley Massimino (public member) – Tustin, CA
2. Sarah Mac Isaac (attorney member) – Long Beach, CA
3. Wendy Nix (public member) – Los Angeles, CA

Appointment of Officers to LAPOC

Justin Delacruz was appointed chair on [January 24, 2020](#), and reappointed to chair on [November 17, 2022](#), with his term ending November 2023. As a lawyer member in recovery

with 5 years or more sobriety, he meets the requirements pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 6231 (a)(1)(D). Due to a vacant vice-chair position since 2021 and no suitable replacements, the recommendation is to extend his term through November 2024, while allowing LAPOC to establish a succession plan.

As mentioned above, the vice-chair position has been vacant since 2021. This year, two LAPOC members applied to serve in this capacity. LAPOC leadership and staff recommend that Heather Benton be appointed as vice-chair due to her innovative insights, thoughtfulness in discussions encompassing mental health issues, right temperament, and representation of historically underrepresented groups.

Ms. Benton, a practicing California attorney for a decade, is candid about her own recovery journey and is dedicated to helping others facing similar challenges. She works with Disability Rights California and has extensive volunteer experience, including serving on the California Lawyers Association's Board of Representatives. In her statement, Ms. Benton emphasized the criticality of mental and emotional health for attorneys, drawing from her experience as a sober legal professional with an invisible disability.

Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, the Board's Appointments Liaisons, have reviewed and are in support of LAPOC leadership's recommendations.

LEGAL SERVICES TRUST FUND COMMISSION (LSTFC)

This commission administers grant programs that fund nonprofit civil legal aid organizations, including Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts grants and the Equal Access Fund. The commission consists of 21 voting members; the Board of Trustees appoints six voting members. The chair and vice-chair of the LSTFC are selected by the chair of the Judicial Council and not by the Board.

The commission seeks lawyers and public members who possess a commitment to the delivery of legal services and sensitivity to the needs of low-income communities. Lawyers and members of the public who have experience or familiarity addressing the particular problems of self-represented litigants, experience and familiarity with community economic development, or who have knowledge of the structure and practices of banking and financial institutions are encouraged to apply.

Appointment of New Members and Alternates to LSTFC

The Board has three vacancies to fill for the 2023–2024 term. Forty applications were received for these vacancies, 28 from public member applicants and 11 from attorney applicants, including three from current members. Due to a strong desire to increase diversity on the commission, LSTFC leadership and staff recommend only reappointing Amin Al-Sarraf. LSTFC leadership and staff reviewed all applications, and four candidate interviews were conducted. To the extent possible, staff is coordinating amongst the various appointing entities to ensure a qualified, balanced, and diverse commission. The Judicial Council, the Senate, and the Assembly have separate nomination processes. A list of applicants recommended as new members, reappointment of existing members, and alternates is provided below:

1. Jonathan Sandville (public member) – Encino, CA

2. Milan Sundaresan (attorney member) – San Francisco, CA

LSTFC leadership also supports the reappointment of the following member:

1. Amin Al-Sarraf (attorney member) – South Pasadena, CA

Proposed Alternates

1. Toni Hoang (attorney member) – Stockton, CA

Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, the Board’s Appointments Liaisons, have reviewed and are in support of LSTFC leadership’s recommendations.

REVIEW COMMITTEE OF THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL NOMINEES EVALUATION (RJNE)

RJNE, established pursuant to article 6, rule 7.66 of the Rules of Procedures of the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation, is a five-member committee that is charged with reviewing requests from those candidates that are seeking reconsideration of a “not qualified” rating by the JNE Commission. RJNE evaluates information pertaining to the investigation of the candidate and focuses on possible violations of rules or procedures.

RJNE consists of two members of the Board of Trustees, one public member and one attorney member; one past member of the JNE Commission; and two at-large members appointed at the discretion of the Board. RJNE members serve four-year terms, except for the Board positions, which are filled annually by the Board chair at the commencement of the new Board year.

Appointment of New Members and Alternates to the RJNE

In 2023, RJNE seeks to fill one vacancy created by the expiration of the term of current RJNE Chair Jody Nuñez. The new member vacancy will be filled by elevating an alternate next in line from the 2022 RJNE alternates list. The alternate fulfills the vacancy satisfying the role of an attorney member and a past JNE member. In terms of qualifications, it is desirable to have attorney or other legal-related experience, knowledge of the judiciary, strong analytical skills and ability to assess confidential information in a thorough and objective manner. Former JNE commissioners are also strongly encouraged to apply to RJNE because of the experience and knowledge gained from their time on the JNE Commission. A list of the applicant recommended as a new member and alternates is provided below:

1. Elizabeth Kuczynski D’Orazio (attorney member) – San Francisco, CA

Proposed Alternates

1. Reema M. El-Amamy (attorney member) – Los Angeles, CA
2. James D. Crosby (attorney member) – San Diego, CA
3. Justice James Gary Hastings (Ret.) (former judicial officer) – Redondo Beach

Appointment of Officer to RJNE

Maureen Onyeagbako, a supervising deputy attorney general in the Health, Education, and Welfare Section at the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, manages the civil litigation team defending state constitution and always in California state and federal courts. She also consults with and advises internal and external clients on issues

related to civil litigation and strategy. Current RJNE Chair Jody Nuñez also recommends current RJNE member Maureen Onyeagbako to take place as 2023 RJNE Chair.

Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, the Board's Appointments Liaisons, have reviewed and are in support of RJNE leadership's recommendations.

JUDICIAL NOMINEES EVALUATION (JNE) COMMISSION

The JNE Commission is an agency of the State Bar created by Government Code section 12011.5 for the purpose of evaluating judicial candidates who are under consideration for appointment by the governor of California. Pursuant to statute, prior to exercising judicial appointment authority, the governor is required to submit the names of candidates to the JNE Commission for an investigation and evaluation of the candidates' judicial qualifications. The commission must report back to the governor within 90 days of the date of submitting its rating of candidates as one of the following: exceptionally well qualified, well qualified, qualified, or not qualified.

The commission consists of a maximum of 38 members, up to 20 percent of whom can be public members pursuant to State Bar rule 7.2 (A). State Bar rules require that one of the lawyer members be a former judicial officer, preferably of an appellate court. Commissioners serve a single three-year term and only the chair may serve a fourth year. The first JNE Commission meeting of the commission year occurs in June and the last meeting occurs the following April. The April meeting serves as the shadow meeting for the incoming first-year commissioners sworn in at their orientation meeting in January. Each year, the third-year commissioners and the chair term off at the April meeting.

Appointment of New Members and Alternates to the 2024 JNE Commission

Ninety-five applications were received for 11 JNE Commission vacancies: 42 from public member applicants, 49 from attorney applicants, and 4 from former judicial officers.

In reviewing applications for appointment to the commission, 2023 JNE leadership screened applicants for: (1) leadership in their areas of practice or employment; and (2) diversity of background and experience. The criteria used to consider the lawyer applicants include length of time in practice, type of practice, and area of specialty.

The following recommended appointees are set to increase the ratio of public members in the commission to 18 percent, an increase from the 13 percent in 2023. If the Board approves this slate of candidates, all available public member slots permitted under the current rules would be filled.

Staff and JNE Commission leadership are committed to continue efforts to recruit qualified public members to increase the number of public member applicants in the coming year. A list of applicants recommended as new members and alternates is provided below:

Proposed 2024 First-Year Class

1. Michael Coleman (public member) – El Dorado Hills, CA
2. Theresa Hurley (public member) – Mill Valley, CA

3. Kevin Lau (public member) – San Francisco, CA
4. Idontea Richardson (public member) – Tujunga, CA
5. Hon. Keith Davis (former judicial officer) – Upland, CA
6. David Angeloff (attorney member) – Los Angeles, CA
7. Rebecca Cenicerros (attorney member) – Carmel Valley, CA
8. Lilian Chu (attorney member) – San Dimas, CA
9. Angelina Clay (attorney member) – Oakland, CA
10. Jason Curry (attorney member) – Upland, CA
11. Maulik Shah (attorney member) – San Francisco, CA

Proposed Alternates

1. Rohullah Azizi (public member) – Modesto, CA
2. Carly Bitmann (attorney) – San Francisco, CA
3. Lizzette Castellanos (attorney) – Chula Vista, CA
4. Khuong Dinh (public member) – West Hollywood, CA
5. Sandy Flagge-Phillips (attorney) – Vacaville, CA
6. Geoffrey Holbrook (attorney) – Imperial, CA
7. Hon. Barbara Johnson (ret., former judicial officer) – Los Angeles, CA
8. Dale Kiken (attorney) – Irvine, CA
9. Daniel Osborn (attorney) – Oakland, CA
10. Hon. Dennis Peterson (ret., former judicial officer) – Fresno, CA
11. Erin Petrig (attorney) – San Diego, CA
12. Daisy Rivas (public member) – Arcadia, CA
13. Schuyler Schouten (attorney) – San Diego, CA
14. Kim Tran (attorney) – Irvine, CA

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS TO THE 2024 JNE COMMISSION

Historically, the vice-chair position has been used to prepare a member of the commission to serve as the chair. The vice-chair has substantial responsibilities and serving in that position provides a hands-on training opportunity to develop the expertise necessary to perform the functions of the chair. Typically, the vice-chair is the only candidate for chair. That is the case in this appointments cycle. Chhaya Malik, the current vice-chair, is the only candidate for chair.

Board Appointments Liaisons Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby interviewed Vice-Chair Malik by Zoom on July 17, 2023, and recommend that she be appointed as chair of the 2024 JNE Commission. Vice-Chair Malik currently serves as deputy director of Dispute Resolution for the State of California Civil Rights Department. She is an experienced attorney and mediator practicing in the areas of complex litigation, government service, and public interest advocacy. She has a well-rounded legal background and a demonstrated commitment to increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the legal profession and on the bench.

As previously stated, the vice-chair has substantial responsibilities. On July 17, 2023, Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, the Board's Appointments Liaisons, interviewed three candidates for the vice-chair position and were impressed with the level of interest and commitment shown by each.

Although a difficult choice given the superior talent of the candidates, the appointments liaisons recommend that Lorena Peñaloza serve as vice-chair of the 2024 JNE Commission. Commissioner Peñaloza currently serves as chief campus counsel for the University of California, Riverside, where she provides advice to the University on a broad range of legal issues, including employment, police, academic affairs, Title IX, Clery, land use, environmental health and safety and student affairs. She has a well-rounded legal background and a demonstrated commitment to increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the legal profession and on the bench.

Brandon Stallings and Melanie Shelby, the Board's Appointments Liaisons, have reviewed and are in support of JNE leadership's recommendations.

FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACT

None

AMENDMENTS TO RULES

None

AMENDMENTS TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES POLICY MANUAL

None

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS & IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

Goal 4. Protect the Public by Engaging Partners.

- b.1. Create and sustain partnerships with other organizations, entities, and stakeholder groups.
- c.2. Increase the number and variety of stakeholders to include affinity bar associations and a broad range of organizations invested in the mission of the State Bar.
- c.3. Engage diverse voices in the development and evaluation of State Bar policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Should the Board Executive Committee concur in the proposed action, passage of the following resolution is recommended:

Committee of Bar Examiners

RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Nathan Mubashar and Alan Yochelson, as presented in Attachment A, to serve on the Committee of Bar Examiners, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment A, each for the remainder of the resigning member's term if a midterm vacancy is created.

California Board of Legal Specialization

RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Jeffrey T. Hammerschmidt to serve as chair and Michael D. Lee to serve as vice-chair as presented in Attachment B, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Katrina Darlene Richard and Dana Marie Rueckert, as presented in Attachment B, to serve on the California Board of Legal Specialization, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment B, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a midterm vacancy is created.

Council on Access and Fairness

RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the reappointment of Judge Kristin Rosi to serve as chair and Judge Michael Rhoads to serve as vice-chair as presented in Attachment C, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Arinolayemi “Yemi” Adegbonmire, Terra Davis, Tristan E.H. Higgins, Jazzirelle Hill, as presented in Attachment C, to serve on the Council on Access, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier.

Committee of Professional Responsibility and Conduct

RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Brandon Krueger to serve as chair, Cassidy Chivers to serve as vice-chair, and Sarah Banola to serve as advisor as presented in Attachment D, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Deepika Ravi and Mary Grace Guzman, as presented in Attachment D, to serve on the Committee of Professional Responsibility and Conduct, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment D, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a midterm vacancy is created.

California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.

RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of James Head, David Tsai, Abeer Ibrahim, and Maria de la Luz Olaguez, and the reappointment of Camille Panni, Alejandro Delgado, Peter Carson, and David Martinez as presented in Attachment E, to serve on the board of California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc., for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on July 20–21, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on July 22–23, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment E, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a midterm vacancy is created.

Client Security Fund Commission

RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the reappointment of Melanie O’Day to serve as chair and Fenglan Liu to serve as vice-chair as presented in Attachment F, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier.

Lawyer Assistance Program Oversight Committee

RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the reappointment of Justin Delacruz to serve as chair and Heather Benton to serve as vice-chair as presented in Attachment G, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Christina Salazar, as presented in Attachment G, to serve on the Lawyer Assistance Program Oversight Committee, for a four-year

term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on January 18–19, 2024, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment G, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a midterm vacancy is created.

Legal Services Trust Fund Commission

RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Jonathan Sandville and Milan Sindaresan, and the reappointment of Amin Al-Sarraf, as presented in Attachment H, to serve on the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment H, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a midterm vacancy is created.

Review Committee of the Commission on Judicial Nominees

RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Maureen Onyeagbako to serve as chair, as presented in Attachment I, for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Elizabeth Kuczynski D’Orazio, as presented in Attachment I, to serve on the Review Committee of the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment I, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a midterm vacancy is created.

Judicial Nominees Evaluation Commission

RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees appoints Chhaya Malik to serve as the chair of the 2024 Judicial Nominees Evaluation (JNE) Commission and Lorena Peñaloza to serve as the vice-chair of the 2024

JNE Commission, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the last business meeting of the 2024 JNE Commission on April 20, 2024, and expiring at the close of the last business meeting of the 2025 JNE Commission on April 20, 2025, or until further order of the Board, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees appoints 11 new members to the 2024 JNE Commission as presented in Attachment J, each for a three-year term commencing upon administration of the oath of the office at the orientation meeting on January 26–27, 2024, and expiring at the close of the last business meeting of the 2026 JNE Commission in April 2027, or until further order of the Board, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment J, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a midterm vacancy is created.

Should the Board of Trustees concur in the proposed action, passage of the following resolution is recommended:

Committee of Bar Examiners

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of Nathan Mubashar and Alan Yochelson, as presented in Attachment A, to serve on the Committee of Bar Examiners, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment A, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation.

California Board of Legal Specialization

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of Jeffrey T. Hammerschmidt to serve as chair and Michael D. Lee to serve as vice-chair as presented in Attachment B, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of Katrina Darlene Richard and Dana Marie Rueckert, as presented in Attachment B, to serve on the California Board of Legal Specialization, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the

Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment B, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation.

Council on Access and Fairness

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the reappointment of Judge Kristin Rosi to serve as chair and Judge Michael Rhoads to serve as vice-chair as presented in Attachment C, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of Arinolayemi “Yemi” Adegbonmire, Terra Davis, Tristan E.H. Higgins, Jazzirelle Hill, as presented in Attachment C, to serve on the Council on Access, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier.

Committee of Professional Responsibility and Conduct

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of Brandon Krueger to serve as chair, Cassidy Chivers to serve as vice-chair, and Sarah Banola to serve as advisor as presented in Attachment D, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of Deepika Ravi and Mary Grace Guzman, as presented in Attachment D, to serve on the Committee of Professional Responsibility and Conduct, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment D, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation.

California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of James Head, David Tsai, Abeer Ibrahim, and Maria de la Luz Olaguez, and the reappointment of Camille Panni, Alejandro Delgado, Peter Carson, and David Martinez as presented in Attachment E, to serve on the board of California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc., for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on July 20–21, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on July 22–23, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment E, each for the remainder of the resigning member's term if a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation.

Client Security Fund Commission

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the reappointment of Melanie O'Day to serve as chair and Fenglan Liu to serve as vice-chair as presented in Attachment F, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier.

Lawyer Assistance Program Oversight Committee

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the reappointment of Justin Delacruz to serve as chair and Heather Benton to serve as vice-chair as presented in Attachment G, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of Christina Salazar, as presented in Attachment G, to serve on the Lawyer Assistance Program Oversight Committee, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on January 18–19, 2024, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment G, each for the remainder of the resigning member's term if a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation.

Legal Services Trust Fund Commission

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of Jonathan Sandville and Milan Sindaresan, and the reappointment of Amin Al-Sarraf, as presented in Attachment H, to serve on the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment H, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation.

Review Committee of the Commission on Judicial Nominees

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of Maureen Onyeagbako to serve as chair, as presented in Attachment I, for a one-year term commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 19–20, 2024, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the appointment of Elizabeth Kuczynski D’Orazio, as presented in Attachment I, to serve on the Review Committee of the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation, for a four-year term, commencing at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 21–22, 2023, and expiring at the close of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 23–24, 2027, or until further order of the Board of Trustees, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment I, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation.

Judicial Nominees Evaluation Commission

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, appoints Chhaya Malik to serve as the chair of the 2024 Judicial Nominees Evaluation Commission and Lorena Peñaloza as presented in Attachment J, to serve as the vice-chair of the 2024 JNE Commission, each for a one-year term commencing at the close of the last business meeting of the 2024 JNE Commission on April 20, 2024, and expiring at the close of the last business meeting of the 2025 JNE Commission on April 20, 2025, or until further order of the Board, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, appoints 11 new members to the 2024 Judicial Nominees

Evaluation Commission as presented in Attachment J, each for a three-year term commencing upon administration of the oath of the office at the orientation meeting on January 26–27, 2024, and expiring at the close of the last business meeting of the 2026 JNE Commission in April 2027, or until further order of the Board, whichever occurs earlier; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, approve the list of alternate members as presented in Attachment J, each for the remainder of the resigning member’s term if a midterm vacancy is created.

ATTACHMENTS LIST

- A.** Committee of Bar Examiners Roster of Current Members and Proposed Members
- B.** California Board of Legal Specialization Roster of Current Members and Proposed Members
- C.** Council on Access and Fairness Roster of Current Members and Proposed Members
- D.** Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct Roster of Current Members and Proposed Members
- E.** California Rural Legal Assistance Inc. Roster of Current Members and Proposed Members
- F.** Client Security Fund Commission Roster of Current Members and Proposed Members
- G.** Lawyer Assistance Program Oversight Committee Roster of Current Members and Proposed Members
- H.** Legal Services Trust Fund Commission Roster of Current Members and Proposed Members
- I.** Review Committee of the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation Roster of Current Members and Proposed Members
- J.** Judicial Nominees Evaluation Commission Roster of Current Members and Proposed Members
- K.** 2023 Appointments Cycle Outreach Summary

**Committee of Bar Examiners Roster
of Current Members and Proposed Members**

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Current Composition				
Chair, Paul	Kramer	✓		September 2023
Vice-Chair, Michael	Cao, MD		✓	September 2023
Alex	Lawrence		✓	September 2022
Alex	Chan	✓		September 2025
Bethany	Peak	✓		September 2025
David	Torres	✓		September 2023
Dolores	Heisinger		✓	September 2023
Esther	Lin	✓		September 2025
James	Bolton, PhD		✓	September 2025
James	Efting	✓		September 2024
Kareem	Gongora		✓	September 2025
Ashley	Silva-Guzman	✓		November 2026
Larry	Kaplan		✓	September 2022
Robert	Brody	✓		September 2024
Vincent	Reyes		✓	January 2023
Proposed New Members				
Nathan	Mubasher	✓	✓	September 2027
Alan	Yochelson	✓	✓	September 2027
Proposed 2023 Alternates				
Jennifer	Leland	✓		--
Aaron	Filler	✓		--
Patrick	Dixon	✓		--

-- Denotes not applicable unless a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation, at which point an alternate would be selected to fill that vacancy.

**California Board of Legal Specialization Roster
of Current Members and Proposed Members**

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Current Composition				
Chair, Natalie	Vance	✓		September 2023
Vice-Chair, Jeffrey	Hammerschmidt	✓		September 2023
Norma	Acosta	✓		September 2023
Grace	Alano	✓		September 2026
Michael	Lee	✓		September 2025
Jake	Yoon		✓	September 2024
Proposed New Officers				
Jeffrey (Chair)	Hammerschmidt	✓		September 2024
Michael (Vice-Chair)	Lee	✓		September 2024
Proposed New Members				
Katrina	Richards		✓	September 2027
Dana	Rueckert	✓		September 2027
George	Surmaitis	✓		September 2027
Proposed 2023 Alternates				
Pamela	Bennett		✓	--
Mark	Lester	✓		--

-- Denotes not applicable unless a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation, at which point an alternate would be selected to fill that vacancy.

**Council on Access and Fairness Roster
of Current Members and Proposed Members**

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Current Composition				
Chair, Judge Kristin	Rosi	✓		September 2023
Vice-Chair, Judge Michael	Rhoads	✓		September 2024
Heather	Anderson-Haynes	✓		September 2023
Novella	Coleman	✓		September 2024
Ryan	Harrison	✓		September 2023
Chalak	Richards		✓	September 2024
Angelica	Salceda	✓		September 2025
Stephanie	Santoro	✓		September 2024
Gonzalo	Torres	✓		September 2023
Proposed New Officers				
Judge Kristin (Chair)	Rosi	✓		September 2024
Judge Michael (Vice-Chair)	Rhoads	✓		September 2024
Proposed New Members				
Arinolayemi "Yemi"	Adegbonire	✓		September 2027
Terra	Davis		✓	September 2027
Tristan	Higgins	✓		September 2027
Jazzirelle	Hill	✓		September 2027

-- Denotes not applicable unless a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation, at which point an alternate would be selected to fill that vacancy.

**Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct Roster
of Current Members and Proposed Members**

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Current Composition				
Chair, Sarah	Banola	✓		September 2024
Vice-Chair, Brandon	Krueger	✓		September 2025
Advisor, Justin	Fields	✓		September 2023
Ken	Bacon	✓		September 2023
Elizabeth	Bradley	✓		September 2025
Raquel	Brown		✓	September 2026
Cassidy	Chivers	✓		September 2025
Joel	Mark	✓		September 2024
Elanor	Mercado		✓	September 2025
William	Munoz	✓		September 2025
Daniel	O’Rielly	✓		September 2026
Vikita	Poindexter		✓	September 2024
Hunter	Starr	✓		September 2024
Proposed New Officers				
Brandon (Chair)	Krueger	✓		September 2024
Cassidy (Vice-Chair)	Chivers	✓		September 2024
Sarah (Advisor)	Banola	✓		September 2024
Proposed New Members				
Deepika	Ravi	✓		September 2027
Mary	Guzman	✓		September 2027
Proposed 2023 Alternates				
Justin	Denlinger	✓		--
Anthony	Khoury	✓		--
James	Banks	✓		--

-- Denotes not applicable unless a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation, at which point an alternate would be selected to fill that vacancy.

**California Rural Legal Assistance Inc. Roster
of Current Members and Proposed Members**

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Current Composition				
Michael	Bracamontes	✓		July 2023
Peter	Carson	✓		July 2023
Alejandro	Delgado	✓		July 2023
David	Martinez	✓		July 2023
Camille	Pannu	✓		July 2023
Nicole	Phillips	✓		July 2023
Jacq	Wilson	✓		July 2023
Proposed New Members				
James	Head	✓		July 2027
Maria	De la Luz Olaguez	✓		July 2027
Abeer	Ibrahim	✓		July 2027
David	Tsai	✓		July 2027
Proposed Reappointments				
Peter	Carson	✓		July 2027
Alejandro	Delgado	✓		July 2027
Camille	Pannu	✓		July 2027
David	Martinez	✓		July 2027
Proposed 2023 Alternates				
Jessica	Alvarez	✓		--
Magdalena	Casa	✓		--

-- Denotes not applicable unless a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation, at which point an alternate would be selected to fill that vacancy.

**Client Security Fund Commission Roster
of Current Members and Proposed Members**

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Current Composition				
Chair, Melanie	O'Day	✓		September 2024
Vice-Chair, Fenglan	Liu	✓		September 2025
Monica	Cooper		✓	September 2026
Dr. Venetta	Campbell		✓	September 2025
Joseph	Dimino	✓		September 2024
Proposed New Officers				
Melanie (Chair)	O'Day	✓		September 2024
Fenglan (Vice-Chair)	Liu	✓		September 2024

-- Denotes not applicable unless a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation, at which point an alternate would be selected to fill that vacancy.

**Lawyer Assistance Program Oversight Committee Roster
of Current Members and Proposed Members**

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Current Composition				
Chair, Justin	Delacruz	✓		November 2023
Heather	Benton	✓		September 2024
James	Heiting	✓		January 2024
Tracy	LeSage		✓	September 2027
Diedre	Nguyen		✓	December 2024
Dr. Philip	Spiegel		✓	September 2025
Dr. Martin	Williams		✓	January 2024
Elise	Yenne, PhD		✓	September 2026
Proposed New Officers				
Justin (Chair)	Delacruz	✓		September 2024
Heather (Vice-Chair)	Benton	✓		September 2024
Proposed New Members				
Christina	Salazar		✓	September 2027
Proposed 2023 Alternates				
Ashley	Massimino		✓	--
Sarah	Isaac	✓		--
Wendy	Nix		✓	--

-- Denotes not applicable unless a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation, at which point an alternate would be selected to fill that vacancy.

**Legal Services Trust Fund Commission
of Current Members and Proposed Members**

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Chair, Christian	Schreiber	✓		September 2023
Co-vice-chair, Amin	Al-Sarraf	✓		September 2024
Co-vice-chair, Erica	Connolly	✓		September 2026
Advisor, Judge Victor	Rodriguez	✓		September 2026
Advisor, Judge Brad	Seligman	✓		September 2024
Advisor, Judge Bryant	Yang	✓		September 2025
Banafsheh	Akhlaghi	✓		September 2023
Jeffrey	Ball		✓	September 2024
Judge Louise	Bayles-Fightmaster	✓		September 2024
Catherine	Blakemore	✓		September 2026
Will	Boschelli		✓	September 2023
Venetta	Campbell		✓	September 2026
Efrain	Escobedo		✓	March 2027
Jason	Galkin		✓	September 2024
J. Eric	Isken	✓		September 2024
Angie	King		✓	September 2026
Clifford	Klein	✓		February 2026
Judge Diana	Kruze	✓		September 2024
Joseph	Lee	✓		September 2024
Tammy	Mahoney		✓	September 2024
James	Meeker		✓	September 2023
Patience	Milrod	✓		September 2025
Maria	Morales		✓	April 2027
Xavier	Vargas		✓	September 2026
Proposed New Member				

Jonathan	Sandville		✓	September 2027
Milan	Sundaresan	✓		September 2027
Proposed Reappointments				
Amin	Al-Sarraf	✓		September 2027
Proposed 2023 Alternates				
Toni	Hoang	✓		--

-- Denotes not applicable unless a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation, at which point an alternate would be selected to fill that vacancy.

**Review Committee of the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation Roster
of Current Members and Proposed Members**

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Current Composition				
Chair, Jody	Nuñez	✓		September 2023
Mark	Broughton	✓		September 2023
José	Cisneros		✓	September 2023
Tobi	Inlender		✓	September 2026
Maureen	Onyeagbako	✓		September 2026
Proposed New Officers				
Maureen (Chair)	Onyeagbako	✓		September 2024
Proposed New Members				
Elizabeth	Kuczynski D’Orazio	✓		September 2027
Proposed Alternates				
Reema	El-Amamy	✓		--
James	Crosby	✓		--
Justice Gary	Hastings	✓		--

-- Denotes not applicable unless a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation, at which point an alternate would be selected to fill that vacancy.

**Judicial Nominees Evaluation Commission Roster
of Current Members and Proposed Members**

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Current Composition				
Chair, Justin	Palmer	✓		April 2023
Vice-Chair, Chhaya	Malik	✓		April 2023
Ugochi	Anaebere-Nicholson	✓		April 2024
Caley	Anderson	✓		April 2025
Kristin	Ault	✓		April 2026
Matthew	Barnachia		✓	April 2025
Andre	Bollinger	✓		April 2024
Aundrea	Brown	✓		April 2024
Julia	Choe	✓		April 2024
Tara	Doss	✓		April 2025
Frine	Eger-Gelston	✓		April 2025
Noemi	Esparza	✓		April 2025
Diana	Garrido	✓		April 2024
Winnifred	Gin	✓		April 2023
Joseph	Goldstein-Breyer	✓		April 2026
Stacey	Guillory	✓		April 2024
Caroline	Hahn	✓		April 2026
Stephen	Hamilton	✓		April 2026
Judge Brenda	Harbin-Forte	✓		April 2024
Theresa	Hurley		✓	April 2024
Judge Alan	Jaroslovsky	✓		April 2025
Mack	Jenkins, Sr.		✓	April 2025
Judge Andrew	Kauffman	✓		April 2026
Roger	Lim	✓		April 2026

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Melissa	Mandel	✓		April 2025
Esteban	Mendoza	✓		April 2026
Sandra	Mori	✓		April 2024
Antoinette	Morris	✓		April 2026
Kevin	Nichols		✓	April 2026
Cuautemoc	Ortega	✓		April 2026
Lorena	Peñaloza	✓		April 2025
Jehan	Pernas	✓		April 2026
Michele	Pincus	✓		April 2026
Linda	Soles		✓	April 2026
Francesca	Serrano	✓		April 2024
David	Sutton	✓		April 2025
Ryan	Tacorda	✓		April 2025
Corey	Weber	✓		April 2025
Michael	Yraceburn	✓		April 2024
Proposed New Officers				
Chhaya (Chair)	Malik	✓		April 2025
(Vice-Chair)	Lorena Peñaloza	✓		April 2025
Proposed New Members				
David	Angeloff	✓		April 2027
Rebecca	Ceniceros	✓		April 2027
Lilian	Chu	✓		April 2027
Angelina	Clay	✓		April 2027
Michael	Coleman		✓	April 2027
Jason	Curry	✓		April 2027
Judge Keith	Davis	✓		April 2027
Kevin	Lau		✓	April 2027
Idontea	Richardson		✓	April 2027

First Name	Last Name	Attorney Member	Public Member	Term Expiration
Maulik	Shah	✓		April 2027
Proposed Reappointment				
Theresa	Hurley		✓	April 2027
Proposed 2023 Alternates				
Rohullah	Azizi		✓	
Carly	Bitmann	✓		--
Lizzette	Castellanos	✓		--
Khuong	Dinh		✓	--
Sandy	Flagge-Phillips	✓		--
Geoffrey	Holbrook	✓		--
Judge Barbara	Johnson	✓		--
Dale	Kiken	✓		--
Daniel	Osborn	✓		--
Judge Dennis	Peterson	✓		--
Erin	Petrig	✓		--
Daisy	Rivas		✓	--
Schuyler	Schouten	✓		--
Kim	Tran			--

-- Denotes not applicable unless a vacancy is created due to a midterm resignation, at which point an alternate would be selected to fill that vacancy.



The State Bar of California

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ATTACHMENT K

Date: June 27, 2023

To: Brandon Stallings, Appointments Liaison
Melanie Shelby, Appointments Liaison

From: Louisa Ayrapetyan, Board Secretary, Office of the Executive Director

Subject: 2023 Appointments Recruitment Summary

BACKGROUND

In reevaluating the outcomes of the 2022–2023 appointments cycle, three areas of improvement were identified:

1. The need for a more targeted approach.
2. The need for more robust discussions with committee coordinators.
3. The advantage of “warm” outreach.

Much time and effort was spent on sending recruitment opportunities to general mailing lists or recruitment organizations; these efforts did not yield many applications.

A positive trend was the higher conversion rate between individuals asked to apply by someone associated with the State Bar (either a current Board/committee member) or by someone acting on behalf of the State Bar (staff from another membership organization sharing the opportunities with their constituency).

Guided by these learnings, the State Bar appointments team approached the 2023–2024 cycle with two principles:

1. Be more targeted with outreach and planning.
2. Be more efficient in the usage of our available resources.

PROCESS

The 2023–2024 appointments cycle ran from March 1, 2023, to June 9, 2023. The first step was an assessment of the committees that had upcoming vacancies. Six committees required

recruitment for a total of 27 seats (see list below).³ Of those vacancies, 15 had to be filled by a licensed attorney, 4 by a nonattorney, and 8 had no restrictions on who could fill them.

Committees recruiting:

- California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLS)
- California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. (CRLA)
- Council on Access and Fairness (COAF)
- Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation (JNE)
- Committee of Bar Examiners (CBE)
- Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC)

Once these vacancies were identified, a call was scheduled with each committee's coordinator to identify whether these vacancies had any committee-specific requirements and what knowledge/experience gaps the committee needed to fill. For example, LSTFC had a need for public accounting experience, and COAF wanted members with more experience in DEI leadership.

These conversations informed the three-stage recruitment approach.

STAGE 1: REVISITING PREVIOUS APPLICATIONS

One benefit of the previous appointment cycle was the large volume of applications. Committee coordinators and leadership were encouraged to revisit their previous applicants, and the applicants of other committees, to identify quality candidates. The appointments team took note of selected candidates and confirmed their continued interest.

STAGE 2: BROAD GENERAL OUTREACH

The State Bar appointments team, with heavy support from the Office of Strategic Communications & Stakeholder Engagement, then conducted a two-pronged, broad, general outreach campaign that leveraged many of the State Bar's existing resources and relationships.

The first prong was focused on volume. Existing lists of individuals interested in appointments parties were contacted, organic social media posts were placed on all of the State Bar's social media channels, press and media connections were provided with the opportunities, and a general call was placed to all current Board and committee members, as well as some committee alumni, to share these opportunities with their circles or with specific people.

The second prong was licensure-specific broad outreach. The attorney-specific vacancies were sent to the State Bar's 262,095 licensee contacts and numerous attorney-specific groups (i.e., the California Lawyers Association and affinity bar associations, the Judicial Council of California).

Nonattorney vacancies were shared with civic organizations across California and via a paid social media campaign.

³ Four other committees had vacancies or leadership appointments, but those were handled by reappointments or replumbing the 2022–2023 cycle applicants.

STAGE 3: COMMITTEE-SPECIFIC OUTREACH

Four committees (COAF, CRLA, JNE, and LSTFC) had unique needs or gaps. The State Bar appointments team took special time to identify groups that could serve as validators in sharing these appointments. For example, staff asked the California Society of Public Accountants to share the LSTFC vacancies with their members, hoping that their experiences with public accounting would assist with granting. Staff also shared the COAF opportunities with the DEI Leadership Seal applicants, a group that would have the needed experience in managing DEI initiatives or projects.

Individuals that had applied to serve on the Board of Trustees were asked and considered for positions on these four committees as well.

RESULTS

APPLICATION RESULTS

In total, 186 individuals applied for the available 27 spots. Twenty-six candidates are being recommended to fill the vacancies.⁴ State Bar staff believes it met its goals of approaching the appointments recruitment process in a more efficient, targeted, and repeatable manner.

Applicant type	Number of applications received
Attorneys	100
Nonattorneys	79
Current judicial officers	2
Former judicial officers	5
Total	186

The complete demographic information for all 2023–2024 applicants can be accessed [here](#).

COMPLETE OUTREACH EFFORTS

Below is an overview of the different outreach avenues employed, excluding the reengagement of previous applicants.

Broad General Outreach

- State Bar Appointment Opportunities subscriber list
 - 812 subscribers contacted
- News releases to legal media and statewide press
 - 663 contacts reached
- Organic social media campaign on LinkedIn (inclusive of Leah Wilson’s LinkedIn page), Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram

⁴ COAF has five vacancies but only nominated four candidates.

- 69,315 impressions | 722 clicks | Engagements 1232 (see table below)
- Direct referrals from State Bar staff and current Board/committee members
 - Reminders sent out via weekly updates to the Board and coordinator-lead outreach
- All-licensee newsletter
 - 262,095 subscribers contacted
- California Lawyers Association newsletter
 - With a request to send to all affinity bar groups and bar associations (i.e., California La Raza Lawyers Association)
- California Minority Counsel Program newsletter
- Judicial Council of California newsletter
- List of staff from Legal Aid Association of California
 - 1,800 legal aid staff and attorneys contacted, including executive directors & directors of litigation
- Minority Bar Coalition newsletter

Targeted Committee-specific Outreach

California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.

- News release
- Outreach to 51 California nonprofits/civic engagement organizations

Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation

- American Arbitration Association
- American Judges Association
- Association of African American California Judicial Officers
- Bench-Bar Coalition
- California Access to Justice Commissioners
- California Affinity Judicial Association Coalition
- California Asian – Pacific American Judges Association
- California Asian Pacific American Judges Association
- California Judges Association | newsletter, social media
- Commission on Judicial Performance
- Federal Magistrate Judges Association
- International Association of LGBTQ+ Judges
- International Association of Women Judges
- LGBT Judicial Officers of California
- National American Indian Court Judges Association
- National Association of Immigration Judges
- National Association of Women Judges
- National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
- National Judges Association
- The Federal Judges Association
- The Los Angeles Latino Judicial Officers' Association
- The National Judicial College
- Staff-led individual outreach to retired judges via JAMS Mediation, Arbitration and ADR Services
- Outreach to 51 California nonprofits/civic engagement organizations

- Council on Access and Fairness
- COAF signup list
- DEI Leadership Seal participants
- Legal Services Trust Fund Commission
- California Society of Certified Public Accountants

SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

Given the total number of impressions, engagements, and it's broader targeting of public members, State Bar appointments staff considered paid campaigns a good use of resources.

Organic Posts March–June, 2023					
	Total posts	Impressions	Clicks	Engagements	
	63	69315	722	1232	
Paid campaign March–May, 2023					
Platform	Spend	Impressions	Link Clicks	Engagements	Cost per click
Facebook/Instagram	\$2,000.00	1,104,096	4,400	4,953	\$0.45
LinkedIn	\$1,000.00	113,580	585	586	\$1.71
Totals					
	Spend	Impressions	Clicks	Engagement	Cost per click
Total	\$3,000.00	1,217,676	4,985	5,539	\$0.60