



**OPEN SESSION
AGENDA ITEM IV.I.
AUGUST 2023
COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS**

DATE: August 18, 2023

TO: Members, Committee of Bar Examiners

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

SUBJECT: Administrative Updates from Accredited, Unaccredited, and ABA Approved Law Schools

The following administrative updates were provided by accredited and unaccredited law schools since the last meeting of the Committee of Bar Examiners (committee).

- Concord Law School, an accredited law school teaching via distance learning only, advised that it has moved to new administrative headquarters located at 2029 Century Park Blvd., Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90067. The prior location was in an office park that closed, and the new location is a similar, nearby facility run by the same management. If an accredited law school changes its administrative headquarters to a new location that is within five miles of the old location, the law school must provide notice to the State Bar as was done here. (Rule 4.165(B)(1)).
- Concord Law School, an accredited law school teaching via distance learning only, has filed notice that it will change its name to Purdue Global Law School effective November 8, 2023. Its web domain will change to www.purdueglobal.edu. The law school will continue to be based in California, as set forth by the dean in Attachment A. If an accredited law school changes its name, it must provide notice to the Committee within 30 days. (Rule 4.165 (B)). The Recorder noted the following regarding the name change in a recent article:

The Indiana Supreme Court created the Purdue University Global Concord Law School Working Group, chaired by the Indiana Court of Appeals for the 5th District Judge Nancy H. Vaidik with nine other members and three ex-officio members, following preliminary consideration of Purdue's request, and the group recommended requiring Concord Law

School to change its name to Purdue University Global Law School to indicate “Purdue’s incentive to devote substantial resources to the law school because its outstanding reputation for academic excellence will be on the line.”

*The outcome of that petition is still undecided, but “the court has made it clear from the beginning that one of its prerequisites would be changing the name of the law school to better align with Purdue,” Martin Pritikin, dean and vice president of the law school, said in Friday’s announcement. “It is clear that having Purdue Global more prominent in the name and logo would be advantageous in the long term.” (“Online-Only California Law School to Change Name in Effort to Have Grads Site for Indiana Bar,” *The Recorder*, Aug. 7, 2023).*

The following activities have taken place at the American Bar Association through its Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar (the Section) or law schools in California approved by the American Bar Association’s Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar:

- Chapman University, Fowler School of Law, an ABA approved law school, has appointed Paul D. Paton as dean of the law school.
- Golden Gate University School of Law (GGU) has been on probation for some time through the American Bar Association due to its noncompliance with standard 316. That standard requires each graduating class achieve a 75 percent bar exam pass rate within two years after graduation. The law school recently advised via letter from David J. Fike, GGU president, and Mark Yates, GGU law school dean since July 1, that “[w]e . . . want to let you know, in the clearest possible terms—no matter what course is chosen for our Law School—that GGU Law will continue to operate during the academic year 2023-24 and beyond as necessary to ensure at a minimum that all currently enrolled and entering students will continue to receive their scholarships and be able to receive an ABA-accredited degree.” At the same time, the law school also sent notices to tenured and tenure-track faculty advising them that the law school reserves the option to reduce the size of its faculty in the future starting in fiscal year 2025.
- Loyola Marymount University, Loyola Law School, an ABA approved law school, has appointed Brietta R. Clark as its interim dean.
- University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, an ABA approved law school, has appointed Michael Waterstone as dean of the law school
- University of Southern California, Gould School of Law, an ABA approved law school, has appointed Franita Tolson as its interim dean.
- Western State College of Law, an ABA approved law school, has appointed Marisa S. Cianciarulo as dean of the law school.

The State Bar of California
ATTN.: Natalie Leonard
Principal Program Analyst, Educational Standards
180 Howard St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

August 8, 2023

RE: Notification of Change of School Name [Rule 4.165(B)(4)]

Dear Natalie:

On behalf of Concord Law School at Purdue University Global, I am writing to inform the Committee of Bar Examiners (CBE) of a change to the school name. On August 4, 2023, the Purdue Global Board of Trustees voted to formally approve changing the law school's name to "**Purdue Global School of Law**." Purdue Global recently underwent a major branding update, and the change of the law school's name and logo is consistent with that broader initiative. (Concord has been the only school within Purdue Global to have its own name.)

The name change should publicly go into effect on November 8, 2023, which will be the publication date of Purdue Global's next catalog update. We will be spending the next 90 days preparing to update our website, marketing materials, and other public-facing content. In tandem with that, we will also be updating the name and logo on our curricular materials for current students, although we don't expect that to be fully complete prior to November 8.

None of our staff's email addresses will change, as they already utilize the university's "purdueglobal.edu" domain. However, we will be updating the law school website address to www.purduegloballawschool.edu. We do anticipate that the www.concordlawschool.edu domain name will remain active for a period of time, only to redirect users to the new domain name.

No substantive changes to our program of legal education itself will result from the name change. As is currently the case, our publicly-facing materials will continue to reflect that our administrative office is in Los Angeles, that our accreditation and accompanying bar exam eligibility is only in the State of California, that we are not accredited by the ABA, and that our graduates are not currently approved to sit for the bar exam upon graduation in any other jurisdiction.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,



Martin Pritikin
Dean and Vice President