



The State Bar of California

Lawyer Assistance Program Oversight Committee Teleconference

Open Minutes

Friday, March 15, 2024

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Time Meeting Commenced: The Lawyer Assistance Program Oversight Committee meeting commenced in open session at 12:04 p.m.

Time Meeting Adjourned: 1:13 p.m.

Chair: Justin Delacruz

Committee Coordinator: Matt Adams

Members Present: Heather Benton, James Heiting, Lisa Johnson, Tracy LeSage, Diedre Nguyen, Philip Spiegel, Justin Delacruz

Members Absent: Elise Yenne

OPEN SESSION

ROLL CALL

The Lawyer Assistance Program Oversight Committee was called to order by Chair Delacruz. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Delacruz called for public comment, inquiring as to whether there were person(s) who wished to comment on any agenda item. There were no public comments.

I. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Delacruz provided an oral report.

II. STAFF REPORT

Staff members Catherine Ongiri and Michelle Harmon provided oral reports.

III. MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Open Session Minutes: December 8, 2023

The committee approved the December 8, 2023 open session minutes as posted.

Moved by Benton, seconded by Nguyen

Ayes – (7) Benton, Heiting, Johnson, LeSage, Nguyen, Spiegel, Delacruz

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (1) Yenne

Minutes adopted.

IV. BUSINESS

A. Update on Financial Assistance Working Group Re: Recommendations for Rule Changes

Presentation and discussion. Heiting added to existing working group with Benton and Delacruz.

B. Reports From the Stakeholder Working Groups:

1. State Bar Court (Delacruz and Spiegel)
2. Association of Discipline Defense Counsel (Heiting and LeSage)
3. Office of Chief Trial (Benton and Heiting)

Presentation and discussion.

C. Next steps for the Ad Hoc Commission on the Discipline System regarding the Alternative Discipline Program Project

Presentation and discussion.

The following working groups were created to make recommendations on identified topics:

- Process/Procedure (Heiting, Delacruz)
- Eligibility (Johnson, Spiegel)
- Education on Collaborative Courts (LeSage)

ADJOURN