

## **PUBLIC MINUTES**

THE COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS

OF

THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

March 18, 2016

Marriott Hotel San Mateo  
1770 S. Amphlett Blvd.  
San Mateo, California

A meeting of the Committee of Bar Examiners of The State Bar of California convened in open session at 2:30 p.m., Friday, March 18, 2016, in a meeting room at the Marriott Hotel in San Mateo, Lee H. Wallach, Chair, presiding. Officers and members present were: Lee H. Wallach, Chair; Traci C. Belmore, James A. Bolton, Ph.D., Michelle Domingo, Karen M. Goodman, Erika Hiramatsu, KV Kumar, Alexander C. Lawrence, Jr., Martha Pruden-Hamiter, Sandhya Ramadas, David A. Torres and Patricia M. Villalobos, Members. Vice-Chair Alan S. Yochelson and Members James H. Aguirre, Joel S. Miliband, Sandra Salazar, Larry Sheingold and Jeanne C. Vanderhoff were absent. State Bar staff members in attendance were Gayle E. Murphy, Senior Director, Admissions, George C. Leal, Director for Educational Standards, Lisa Jeong Cummins, Director for Examinations, Greg S. Shin, Director for Operations and Management, Kelly M. O'Haire, Director for Moral Character Determinations, Sarah Reed, Director for Administration, Kim Wong, Administrative Specialist, Rachel S. Grunberg, Senior Assistant General Counsel, and Board of Trustees member Joanna Mendoza, liaison to the Committee. Also in attendance were Dean Greg Brandes and Dean Carole Buckner. Member David Torres left the meeting at 2:50 p.m. The session went into closed session at 3:15 p.m., at which time Dean Brandes and Dean Buckner left the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

### **COMMITTEE MEETING PUBLIC MINUTES**

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the minutes taken during the public session of the meeting on January 29 and 30, 2016 be approved.

### **REPORT ON MARCH 1, 2016 LAW SCHOOL ASSEMBLY AND COUNCIL MEETINGS**

It was by common consent agreed that the report on the March 1, 2016 Law School Assembly Meeting and Law Council Meeting prepared by Gayle Murphy, Senior Director for Admissions, be received and filed.

DESIGNATION OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR ADMISSION CEREMONIES  
FOR SUCCESSFUL FEBRUARY 2016 CALIFORNIA BAR  
EXAMINATION APPLICANTS

It was by common consent agreed that the following members represent the Committee at the designated Admission Ceremonies, which will be conducted for the purpose of admitting applicants who are successful on the February 2016 California Bar Examination and who have met all other requirements for admission: Oakland Convention Center – Michelle Domingo, Sacramento – Karen Goodman, Fresno – David Torres, Los Angeles – Sandhya Ramadas, Orange County – KV Kumar, Riverside – James Aguirre, San Diego – Erika Hiramatsu, and Ventura – Alan Yochelson.

SENATE BILL NO. 1281 RE ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES  
FOR UNACCREDITED LAW SCHOOLS

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the Committee recommend that the Board of Trustees support Senate Bill No. 1281, which was introduced by Senator Marty Block on February 19, 2016, with amendments.

SENATE BILL NO. 1257 (BLOCK) RE REQUIRED PRO BONO PRE-ADMISSION

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that Senate Bill No. 1257, which was introduced by Senator Marty Block on February 18, 2016, regarding Pro Bono requirements for admission to the practice of law in California be received and filed and that no further action be taken by the Committee at this time.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION FOR DEPARTED COUNSEL

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee's gratitude be extended to departed Counsel to the Committee, Richard J. Zanassi, for his many years of service to the Committee and his excellent advice over the years, and that the following citation be prepared and presented to him:

This Citation is presented to Richard J. Zanassi by the Committee of Bar Examiners of The State Bar of California in recognition of his outstanding service on behalf of the Committee of Bar Examiners as its Counsel for the last several years.

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2016 KEY INDICATORS

It was by common consent agreed that the January and February 2016 Key Indicators for the Office of Admissions/Committee of Bar Examiners be received and filed.

**MODIFIED CALIFORNIA BAR EXAMINATION**

Following an oral report on the Supreme Court of California's approval of the modified California Bar Examination effective with the July 2017 administration, it was moved, seconded and duly carried that the Committee's particular appreciation be extended to Gayle Murphy for her leadership and Rachel Grunberg for her legal counsel related to effectuating these future changes to the examination.

**SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 29 AND 30, 2016 COMMITTEE MEETING**

It was by common consent agreed that the schedule for the April 29 and 30, 2016 Committee Meeting, which will be held at the State Bar of California Offices in San Francisco, California be received and filed.

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON EXAMINATIONS**

**PROCEDURES FOR GRADING OF THE FIRST-YEAR  
LAW STUDENTS' EXAMINATION**

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the report on the procedures for grading of the First-Year Law Students' Examination be received and filed.

**2015 – 2016 SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS**

It was by common consent agreed that the 2015 – 2016 goals for the Subcommittee on Examinations be received and filed.

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT**

**INDIRECT COSTS AND RESERVE POLICIES**

It was by common consent agreed that the report on the revisions to the State Bar's Indirect Cost Allocation and Reserve Policies be received and filed.

**DECEMBER 2015 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS REPORT**

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the Financial Analysis Report as of December 31, 2015 for the Admissions Fund, be received and filed and that the Director for Operations and Management be directed to prepare a report on the costs of processing Testing Accommodations that includes all aspects of the function for review by the Committee at a future meeting.

**2015 – 2016 SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS**

It was by common consent agreed that the 2015 – 2016 goals for the Subcommittee on Operations and Management be received and filed.

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS**

**2015 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT SUMMARIES RE  
REGISTERED, UNACCREDITED LAW SCHOOLS**

It was by common consent agreed that the summaries of the 2015 Annual Compliance Reports filed by California registered, unaccredited law schools be received and filed.

**NOTICE OF CHANGES IN LAW SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS**

It was by common consent agreed that the notices from: 1) Lincoln Law School of San Jose of the appointment of Laura A. Palazzolo as Dean, effective October 1, 2015, and the appointment of Mindy Cho as Registrar, effective January 4, 2016; 2) Peoples College of Law of the appointment of Karen Millet as Registrar, effective June 30, 2015; and St. Francis School of Law of the appointment of Tammy Carr as Registrar, effective February 25, 2016, be received and filed.

**CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW –  
REQUEST FOR MAJOR CHANGE**

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the request of the California Southern University School of Law, for approval of a major change and the acquiescence of the Committee, which would allow the school to offer and award both a Masters of Law (LL.M) degree and a Master of Science in Dispute Resolution (MSDR) degree be received and file; that the request be granted; that the acquiescence of the Committee for each degree program be granted; that the law school may begin offering both the LL.M and MSDR degree at a time of its choosing; and that the law school include, without alteration as required by Guideline 11.3 of the *Guidelines for Unaccredited Law School Rules*, the appropriate disclaimer in its course catalog and website that neither degree will qualify a recipient to take the California Bar Examination or satisfy the requirements for admission to practice law in California.

**LADY JUSTICE LAW SCHOOL – APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION**

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the Application for Registration of the Lady Justice Law School as a California unaccredited, fixed-facility law school be received and filed; that, as provided by Rule 4.221(B) of the Unaccredited Law School Rules, an inspection of the law school be scheduled to take place within the next sixty days; and that a report of that inspection be prepared and submitted for consideration by the Committee at a future meeting.

**DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR CALIFORNIA ACCREDITED LAW SCHOOLS**

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the matter of requiring additional disclosures by law schools accredited by the Committee be referred to the Committee's Advisory Committee on California Accredited Law School Rules for discussion and recommendation.

FORMAT OF NEW REQUIREMENT FOR UNACCREDITED LAW SCHOOLS

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that the format for reporting attrition rates by unaccredited law schools, which will be required by the new Rule 4.241 of the *Unaccredited Law School Rules* beginning June 1, 2016, be approved in principle; and that the new form when finalized be distributed to the affected schools.

2015 – 2016 SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

It was by common consent agreed that the 2015 – 2016 goals for the Subcommittee on Educational Standards be received and filed.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON MORAL CHARACTER

APPLICANTS REFERRED TO LAWYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
AS A CONDITION OF ABEYANCE

It was moved, seconded and duly carried that a request be submitted to the State Bar's General Counsel's office for assistance in drafting amendments to Article 15 of the California Business and Professions code that expressly permit the participation of applicants for admission in the State Bar of California's Lawyer Assistance Program.

2015 – 2016 SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

It was by common consent agreed that the 2015 – 2016 goals for the Subcommittee on Moral Character be received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

Having concluded all the business scheduled for consideration during the open and closed sessions of the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m., Friday, March 18, 2016.