



The State Bar of California

Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC) Legal Aid Leaders Fellowship Grants Committee Meeting Teleconference

Open Session Minutes
Thursday, August 01, 2024
12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m.

Time Meeting Commenced: The LSTFC Legal Aid Leaders Fellowship Grants Committee meeting commenced in open session at 12:01 p.m.

Time Meeting Adjourned: 12:33 p.m.

Chair: Venetta Campbell

Committee Coordinator: Elizabeth Hom

Members Present: Novella Coleman, Efrain Escobedo, Toni Hoang, Judge Kristin Rosi

Members Absent: None

Liaisons Present: None

Liaisons Absent: None

Staff Present: Shannon Crossley, Colleen Seto, Mara Vejby, Kimberly Warmesley

OPEN SESSION

Call to Order

The LSTFC Legal Aid Leaders Fellowship Grants Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Campbell.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was established. Chair Campbell called for public comment, inquiring as to if there were person(s) who wished to comment on any agenda item. No public comment was made.

1. Chair's Report

1.1 Oral Report

Chair Campbell provided welcome remarks, thanked outgoing committee members, and expressed optimism for another successful year with the Legal Aid Leaders Fellowship Grants.

2. Director's Report

2.1 None

3. Staff Report

3.1 Oral Report

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

Program Director Hom provided an update on the 2024 LALF grant program. The 2024 LALF grant program is winding down with a well-attended closing session with the fellows earlier this week. A pre-summer survey was administered, and an end-of-summer survey has been released. A formal presentation with more information will be provided at a future meeting.

Hom thanked two committee members, Judge Kristin Rosi and Novella Coleman for their service as they will be terming off of the Council on Access and Fairness (COAF) in September 2024. Two new COAF members will be joining at the next meeting. Hom introduced new staff member Mara Vejby, Senior Program Analyst, who will be supporting the LALF Grants Committee's work, and welcomed LALF Grants Committee member Toni Hoang.

4. Open Session Minutes

4.1 Approval of Open Session Minutes from December 4, 2023

RESOLVED, that the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission Legal Aid Leaders Fellowship Grant Committee approves the Open Session Minutes from the December 4, 2023, meeting, as posted on the agenda.

Moved by Escobedo, seconded by Coleman.

Ayes – (3) Coleman, Escobedo, Campbell

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (1) Hoang

Absent – (1) Rosi

Motion carries.

5. Consent Calendar

5.1 None

6. Business

6.1 Approve Recommendations for 2025 Legal Aid Leaders Fellowship Grants Request for Proposals

Presenters: Elizabeth Hom, Program Director, Office of Access & Inclusion
Mara Vejby, Senior Program Analyst, Office of Access & Inclusion

Program Director Hom and Senior Program Analyst Vejby presented the background, timeline, selection and scoring criteria, scoring rubric, application components, and reporting requirements for the 2025 Legal Aid Leaders Fellowship Grants Request for Proposals (RFP.) Hom also shared that office hours will be held after release of the RFP.

Furthermore, Hom presented on Assembly Bill 3279. It is a State Bar legislative priority to amend statute, Business and Professions Code section 6140.03, to allow continued directed funding for law student summer fellowships through December 31, 2030. The current statute is time limited, with funding scheduled to sunset on at the end of this year, December 31, 2024. Support from key stakeholders include California ChangeLawyers, California Access to Justice Commission, and Legal Aid Association of California. It is anticipated that the amendment, which is included as part of the State Bar Fee Bill, will be passed in August or September 2024.

RESOLVED, that the Legal Aid Leaders Fellowship Grants Committee (Committee) recommends the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (Commission) approve the 2025 Legal Aid Leaders Fellowship request for proposals as described herein, including Attachment A; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee recommends the Commission delegate authority to the Commission's Executive Committee to approve tentative and final grant award amounts; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee recommends the Commission delegate authority to State Bar staff to timely redistribute grant funds to existing applicant grantees should a grantee be awarded fellowship funding and is unable to confirm law student fellow(s) by April 24, 2025.

Moved by Escobedo, seconded by Hoang.

Ayes – (5) Coleman, Escobedo, Hoang, Rosi, Campbell

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (0)

Motion carries.

CLOSED SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT