



The State Bar of California

OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEM 3.1 JANUARY 2025 COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS

DATE: January 31, 2025

TO: Members, Committee of Bar Examiners

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

SUBJECT: Report on Updates Regarding Law Schools

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is provided at each meeting and contains administrative updates regarding accredited, unaccredited, and ABA approved schools, as well as updates regarding ABA accreditation that may be of interest to the Committee of Bar Examiners (committee).

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the Committee of Bar Examiners receive and file the Report on Administrative Updates Regarding Law Schools.

DISCUSSION

I. UPDATES REGARDING ACCREDITED AND UNACCREDITED 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).

1. Pacific Coast University School of Law, an unaccredited, distance learning law school advised that it plans to request a voluntary withdrawal of its registration as a registered unaccredited law school and degree granting authority effective at the end of the Spring semester in June 2026 or as soon as practicable thereafter. Staff will work with the law school to bring a more detailed update to the committee in the future, as the law school

is still determining the number of students who will need to transfer, an ongoing custodian of academic records, and its preferred closure date.

2. Western Sierra Law School, an unaccredited, fixed-facility law school, has requested voluntary withdrawal of its registration as a registered unaccredited law school effective at the end of Spring quarter 2025, on May 23, 2025. The school has 19 currently enrolled students, of which 14 will transfer to another law school after conclusion of the Spring 2025 term. The Law School has not yet identified an ongoing custodian of academic records. Staff will work with the law school to effectuate an orderly closure and filing of its outstanding 2024 Annual Report and bring a future motion for acceptance of this request to the committee.

PREVIOUS ACTION

None

FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACT

None

AMENDMENTS TO RULES

None

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS & IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

None – core business operations

RESOLUTIONS

If the committee accepts the report provided above, the following resolution should be made:

RESOLVED, that the Committee of Bar Examiners receive and file the Report on Updates Regarding Law Schools.

ATTACHMENT(S) LIST

None