



The State Bar of California

Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct
845 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, CA 90017

Open Session Minutes
Friday, May 9, 2025
10:05 a.m.–2:04 p.m.

Time Meeting Commenced: The Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct meeting commenced in open session at 10:05 a.m.

Time Meeting Adjourned: 2:04 p.m.

Chair: Cassidy Chivers

Committee Coordinator: Rachel Brewer

Members Present: Emil Ali, Raquel Brigham Brown, Novella Coleman (Via Zoom), Cassidy Chivers, Mary Grace Guzman, Brandon Krueger, Eleanor Mercado, Nima Mohebbi (Via Zoom), Daniel O’Rielly, Vikita Poindexter (Via Zoom), Kerri Riley (Via Zoom)

Members Absent: William Munoz, Deepika Ravi

OPEN SESSION

A. Remarks From the Chair

1. Call to Order
The Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct was called to order by Chair Chivers.
2. Roll Call
Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.
3. Call for Public Comment
Chair Chivers called for public comment, inquiring as to whether there were person(s) who wished to comment on any agenda item.
 1. *Public commentor spoke regarding issues surrounding the February bar examine.*
 2. *Minty Sue Kutnikoff spoke about proposed amendment to Rule 7.3. Expressed support for the proposed rule amendment.*
 3. *Laura MacInnis spoke about the proposed amendment to Rule 7.3. Expressed support on behalf of the Family Violence Law Center.*

4. Minyong Lee spoke about the proposed amendment to Rule 7.3. Expressed support for the proposed rule amendment.

4. Agenda Item 1.1, Approval of Open Session Minutes: March 14, 2025

Moved by O’Rielly, seconded by Ali.

Ayes – (9) Ali, Brown, Coleman, Guzman, Mercado, Mohebbi, O’Rielly, Poindexter, Riley, Chivers

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (2) Munoz, Ravi

Motion carries.

5. Report of the Chair

Chair Chivers provided an oral report.

6. Report of the Committee Coordinator

Ms. Brewer provided an oral report.

B. Business

1. Agenda Item 4.9: Discussion of Draft *Proposed Amendment to Rule 7.3 - Solicitation*

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct approves the Proposed Amendment to Rule 7.3 to be circulated for a 60-day public comment period.

Moved by Riley, seconded by Poindexter.

Ayes – (10) Ali, Brown, Coleman, Guzman, Mercado, Mohebbi, O’Rielly, Poindexter, Riley, Chivers

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (2) Munoz, Ravi

Motion carries.

2. Agenda Item 4.1: Discussion of Draft 20-0001 [re Lawyer as Expert Witness]

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct approves the request to extend the comment period for the draft opinion for an additional 90-day public comment period.

Moved by O’Rielly, seconded by Brown.

Ayes – (10) Ali, Brown, Coleman, Guzman, Mohebbi, O’Rielly, Poindexter, Riley, Chivers

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (4) Mercado, Munoz, Ravi, Riley

Motion carries.

3. *Agenda Item 4.10: Discussion of 2025 Work Plan.*

No recommendation. Discussion only.

4. *Agenda Item 4.7: Discussion of Draft Request to Amend Rules of Professional Conduct, Rules 8.2. and 8.4*

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct approves for Submission to the Board of Trustees.

Moved by O’Rielly, seconded by Mercado.

Ayes – (9) Ali, Brown, Coleman, Guzman, Mercado, Mohebbi, O’Rielly, Poindexter, Chivers

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (3) Munoz, Ravi, Riley

Motion carries.

5. *Discussion of Draft 20-0003 [Flat Fees and Termination]*

No recommendation. Discussion only.

ADJOURN