



# The State Bar of California

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## LSTFC Eligibility and Budget Review Committee Meeting Teleconference

Open Session Minutes  
Wednesday July 24, 2024  
12:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

**Time Meeting Commenced:** The Eligibility and Budget Review Committee meeting commenced in open session at 12:01 p.m.

**Time Meeting Adjourned:** 1:24 p.m.

**Chair:** Catherine Blakemore

**Committee Coordinator:** Danielle MacRae

**Members Present:** Catherine Blakemore, Eloina Gonzalez, Angie King, Hon. Clifford Klein, Xavier Vargas

**Members Absent:** Maria Morales

**Advisors Present:** Judge Brad Seligman

**Advisors Absent:** None

**Liaisons Present:** Salena Copeland (LAAC), Lorine Kline (LAAC)

**Liaisons Absent:** Melanie Snider (Judicial Council)

**Staff Present:** Erica Carroll, Shannon Crossley, Raul Duran, Danielle MacRae, Doan Nguyen, Kimberly Warmesley

### OPEN SESSION

#### 1. Call to Order

The Eligibility and Budget Review Committee (committee) was called to order by Chair Blakemore.

#### 2. Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was established. Chair Blakemore called for public comment, inquiring as to if there were person(s) who wished to comment to any agenda item. The following comments were provided:

##### 1. Gabriella Perez

Gabriella Perez, Executive Director at Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association, commented on item 7.2 and spoke in support of IELLA's application for the pro bono allocation.

2. Caroline Kornfield Robert  
Caroline Kornfield Roberts, Special Projects Director at Oasis Legal Services, provided comment on 7.1 in support of the primary purpose determination for Oasis Legal Services.
3. Paul Bujold  
Paul Bujold, Executive Director at Ventura County Legal Aid, provided comment on 7.1 in support of the primary purpose determination for Ventura County Legal Aid.
4. Kris Jackson  
Kris Jackson, Interim Vice President/Chief of Litigation at Public Counsel, provided comment on 7.2 in support of Public Counsel's application for a pro bono allocation.

### **3. Staff Report**

None

### **4. Committee Report**

None

### **5. Open Session Minutes**

#### **5.1 Approval of Open Session Minutes from June 12, 2024**

**RESOLVED**, that the LSTFC Eligibility and Budget Review Committee approves the Open Session Minutes from the June 12, 2024, meeting, as posted on the agenda.

*Moved by King, seconded by Gonzalez.*

*Ayes – (5) Blakemore, Gonzalez, King, Klein, Vargas*

*Noes – (0)*

*Abstain – (0)*

*Absent – (0)*

*Motion carries.*

### **6. Consent Calendar**

### **7. Business**

#### **7.1 Approve Applications that Do Not Meet Presumption of Primary Purpose and Function**

**Presenter:** Danielle MacRae, Lead Program Analyst, Office of Access & Inclusion

State Bar staff reported that four existing grantees and two first-time applicants had not met the presumption of primary purpose. The committee and representatives from each organization discussed actions the organization could take to meet the requirement.

The committee agreed to allow Oasis Legal Services until August 2, 2024, to collect and submit to staff additional client data to more accurately calculate their qualified expenditures.

**RESOLVED**, that the LSTFC Eligibility and Budget Review Committee finds that the following 2025 IOLTA/EAF applicants have met the primary purpose requirement:

- California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation;
- National Housing Law Project;
- Family Violence Law Center;
- Center for Access to QDROS;
- Oasis Legal Services;
- Ventura County Legal Aid, Inc.

*Moved by King, seconded by Vargas.*

*Ayes – (5) Blakemore, Gonzalez, King, Klein, Vargas*

*Noes – (0)*

*Abstain – (0)*

*Absent – (0)*

*Motion carries.*

**RESOLVED**, that the LSTFC Eligibility and Budget Review Committee allows Oasis Legal Services until August 2, 2024, to collect actual eligibility data for clients served in fiscal year 2023 to include as part of their qualified expenditures for the 2025 IOLTA/EAF application.

*Moved by Klein, seconded by King.*

*Ayes – (5) Blakemore, Gonzalez, King, Klein, Vargas*

*Noes – (0)*

*Abstain – (0)*

*Absent – (1) Morales*

*Motion carries.*

## **7.2 Approve Applications Seeking Pro Bono Allocation Under Test C**

## Analysis

**Presenter:** Danielle MacRae, Lead Program Analyst, Office of Access & Inclusion

State Bar staff presented the applicants seeking the pro bono allocation under test C. The committee asked about a rule change to the pro bono allocation determination which will take effect January 1, 2025. The committee discussed how this rule could change the determinations for two of the organizations under review, and proposed to discuss the rule change with the Board of Trustees to clarify how the rule change timing would affect eligibility for the pro bono allocation for organizations seeking an allocation under test C.

**RESOLVED**, that the LSTFC Eligibility and Budget Review Committee recommends the following 2025 IOLTA/EAF Test C pro bono applicants as eligible for the pro bono allocation:

- Bet Tzedek Legal Services;
- Casa Cornelia Law Center;
- Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law;
- LACBA Counsel for Justice;
- Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino (San Bernardino County only);
- Public Counsel;
- Public Law Center;
- San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program; and
- Veterans Legal Institute.

*Moved by Klein, seconded by Gonzalez.*

*Ayes – (5) Blakemore, Gonzalez, King, Klein, Vargas*

*Noes – (0)*

*Abstain – (0)*

*Absent – (1) Morales*

*Motion carries.*

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the LSTFC Eligibility and Budget Review Committee recommends the following 2025 IOLTA/EAF Test C pro bono applicants as eligible for the pro bono allocation, pending and contingent on Board of Trustees approval to update the effective date of the new pro bono allocation rule:

- Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association, Inc.; and
- Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino (Riverside only)

*Moved by King, seconded by Vargas.*

*Ayes – (5) Blakemore, Gonzalez, King, Klein, Vargas*

*Noes – (0)*

*Abstain – (0)*

*Absent – (1) Morales*

*Motion carries.*

### **7.3 Action on Eligibility Review Conferences**

**Presenter:** Danielle MacRae, Lead Program Analyst, Office of Access & Inclusion

Informational item only.

## **8. ADJOURN**