

Spectrum Institute

To: sean.selegue@arnoldporter.com
Subject: Request to speak at public comment segment of open meeting of State Bar Trustees

Mr. Sean SeLegue
Chair, Board of Trustees
California State Bar

Dear Mr. SeLegue:

I would like to speak during the public comment segment of the open meeting of the State Bar Board of Trustees on March 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. I will be attending the meeting online.

I plan to address Agenda Item #115 dealing with an amendment to the State Bar's 2021 legislative priorities.

I notice that the agenda item references the goal of the Strategic Plan to support access to legal services for low- and moderate-income Californians. It also refers to the objective to support increased funding and enhanced outcome measures for legal services.

Spectrum Institute supports this goal and this objective. However, we believe that the State Bar should devote some time and resources to address the problem of deficient legal services being provided to low- and moderate-income Californians who become entangled, involuntarily, into probate conservatorship proceedings. We believe that in addition to initiating some pro-active measures to address this problem – which the State Bar has not yet done – it should support bills that protect the right to counsel and oppose those that diminish this right by undermining access to a competent attorney who provides zealous advocacy adhering to ethical rules of loyalty and confidentiality.

We would like to discuss with your staff the pro-active steps the State Bar could initiate. We would also like to discuss with your legislative director two bills which are pending: SB 724 which protects the right to counsel, and AB 596 which is a Trojan Horse bill which undermines this right. I call your attention to a commentary in the Daily Journal about AB 596.

<https://www.dailyjournal.com/articles/361671-ab-596-a-trojan-horse-bill-diminishes-the-right-to-counsel>

I look forward to addressing the board on March 19. Please share this email with the other trustees.

Respectfully yours,

Thomas F. Coleman
Legal Director
Spectrum Institute
(818) 230-5156
<https://spectruminstitute.org/>



BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOTICE AND AGENDA

Teleconference

The State Bar of California

www.calbar.ca.gov

Thursday, March 18, 2021—Friday, March 19, 2021
Thurs., 10:30 a.m. —

The Board of Trustees Meeting is spread over two days. Closed Session will begin on Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Public comment for Closed Session items will be taken on Thursday before the Board goes into Closed Session.

Open Session will begin on Friday at 9:00 a.m. Public Comment for Open Session items will be taken on Friday upon recommencement of the meeting. If Closed Session does not conclude on Thursday, the remaining Closed Session items will be heard on Friday upon conclusion of Open Session.

Members of the public may access this meeting as follows:

Zoom Link: <https://calbar.zoom.us/j/99073123818>

Call-In Number: 669-900-9128

Webinar ID: 990-7312-3818

OPEN SESSION

The Chair reserves the right to alter the order of items to run an effective meeting. If you wish to assure yourself of hearing a particular discussion, please attend the entire meeting.

* -- CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT --

Members of the public may speak to any item on the agenda. The Chair reserves the right to limit the duration of the public comment period.

10 MINUTES

[Open Session Minutes - January 22, 2021](#)

30 CHAIR'S REPORT

40 STAFF REPORTS

41 Executive Director

Report from Executive Director

50 CONSENT AGENDA

50-1 [Approval of Specified Contracts Pursuant to Business and Professions Code](#)



Updated 2017-2022 Strategic Plan Rev. 3 : 3.k.

54-181 Q4 Board and Management Travel Expenses

100 REPORTS OF BOARD COMMITTEES

110 Board Executive Committee



115 Approval of Addition to 2021 Legislative Priorities

Updated 2017-2022 Strategic Plan Rev. 3 : 4.a.

120 Regulation and Discipline Committee

140 Finance Committee

180 Audit Committee

700 MISCELLANEOUS

701 Status Update on Recommendations to Address Disparities in the Discipline System (MacLeod/Chavez)

Updated 2017-2022 Strategic Plan Rev. 3 : 2.b.

702 Proposed State Bar Rule 3.453 Governing Client Security Fund Payment Plans for Nondisbarred and Nonresigned Licensees: Request for Emergency Adoption as an Interim Rule and Request to Circulate for Public Comment for Later Adoption as a Permanent Rule (Kaur)

Updated 2017-2022 Strategic Plan Rev. 3 : 2.d.

703 State Bar Metrics Report (Hershkowitz/Chavez)

704 Approval of Planned Updates to the State Bar Website to Implement Recent Rule Changes Addressing Public Licensee Information and Required Reporting (Ruano)

Updated 2017-2022 Strategic Plan Rev. 3 : 2.g.

705 Discussion Regarding the Appointment of the State Bar Executive Director (Duran/Sowell)

CLOSED SESSION

1000 MINUTES

Closed Session Minutes - January 21–22, 2021

*Closed pursuant to Government Code §§ 11126 - 11126.2.

5000 CLOSED CONSENT

7000 MISCELLANEOUS

7001 *In re Gregory Harper on Discipline*, California Supreme Court Case No. S265240 (filed November 25, 2020)

*Closed pursuant to Government Code § 11126(e)(1).

services for low- and moderate-income Californians. State Bar staff propose sending a letter to the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Budget in support of increased funding for the Equal Access Fund and adding this to the 2021 legislative priorities of the State Bar.

FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACT

None

AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF THE STATE BAR

None

AMENDMENTS TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES POLICY MANUAL

None

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal: 4. Support access to legal services for low- and moderate-income Californians and promote policies and programs to eliminate bias and promote an inclusive environment in the legal system and for the public it serves, and strive to achieve a statewide attorney population that reflects the rich demographics of the state's population.

* Objective: a. Support increased funding and enhanced outcome measures for Legal Services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Should the Board Executive Committee concur in the proposed action, passage of the following resolution is recommended:

RESOLVED, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approves adding support for additional funding for the Equal Access Fund to the State Bar's 2021 legislative priorities.

Should the Board of Trustees concur in the proposed action, passage of the following resolution is recommended:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee approves adding support for additional funding for the Equal Access Fund to the State Bar's 2021 legislative priorities.

ATTACHMENT(S) LIST

- A. Draft letter of support for Assembly Judiciary Committee proposal