

ACOMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM: June 2015 – O-301

DATE: June 3, 2015

TO: Subcommittee on Operations and Management

FROM: Greg Shin, Director, Operations and Management

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 2015 CALIFORNIA BAR EXAMINATION COST ANALYSIS

BACKGROUND

As part of the on-going process to monitor the costs related to administering the California Bar Examination (CBX), please see below for a cost analysis of the February 2015 CBX. Attached is more detail with regard to the various expenses associated with administering the examination. Tracking this information over time should reveal trends for the major expense categories that should allow for proactive management and control of expenses.

DISCUSSION

The cost for administering the February 2015 CBX was \$1,593,600.00 for 5,230 applicants.

Here are a few highlights from the cost analysis:

1. Approximately 84% of the facility capacity was used to administer the CBX. This is a slight improvement from the February 2014 administration where 79% of the facility capacity was utilized.
2. In line with historical data, 84% of our total costs are made up costs related to facility rental, electrical and proctors.
3. It costs approximately \$164 (\$146 in February 2014) to administer the CBX to an applicant taking the examination at a general test center compared to approximately \$2,842 (\$2,856 in February 2014) for each applicant taking the examination at a Testing Accommodations test center.

Administering examinations at Testing Accommodations test centers involve higher costs because of the type of facility that must be used, i.e., hotel instead of a conference center to be able to provide semi-private/private rooms, additional proctor requirements, specialized equipment/software, etc. If more applicants with disabilities

are granted accommodations in the future, overall costs will start to trend higher. It's also important to note that these figures don't include 'soft' costs for staff time and actual costs for medical experts/consultants to review testing accommodations petitions. Both of which will also increase if volumes increase.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that this report be received and filed.

PROPOSED MOTION

If the Subcommittee agrees, the following motion is suggested:

Move that the report on costs for administering the February 2015 California Bar Examination be received and filed.