

COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: March 2016 – O-400

DATE: March 7, 2016

TO: Subcommittee on Educational Standards

FROM: George Leal, Director, Educational Standards

SUBJECT: **2015 Annual Compliance Report Summaries Re Registered, Unaccredited Law Schools**

BACKGROUND

Rule 4.242 of the *Unaccredited Law School Rules* (Rules) requires all registered, unaccredited law schools to submit an Annual Compliance Report to the Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee) on or before November 15th of each year.

Attachment A is a compilation of summaries of the Annual Compliance Reports submitted by all Committee-registered law schools, divided by category: fixed-facility; distance learning and correspondence. Also attached are graphical representations of a portion of the data submitted by each law school.

DISCUSSION

Each summary includes each law school's admissions data, its current student enrollment, the current and any new addition to its faculty and the current tuition cost of its Juris Doctor degree program. Each also discusses whether a law school submitted and received approval for major change over the past year (per Rule 4.245), and whether it requested and was granted a waiver from the Committee any of operational requirement found in the *Guidelines for Unaccredited Law School Rules* (Guidelines).

Each summary also provides the pass rate of each law school's graduates on the most recent administrations (February 2015 and July 2015) of the California Bar Examination (CBX), and the pass rates of its students on the two most recent administrations of the First-Year Law Students' Examination (FYLX): February 2015 and July 2015.

Also attached for your information, set out in graphical form, is a sample of the data collected from the 2015 Annual Compliance Reports and reported in the summaries.

Below are the year-to-year comparisons of several metrics regarding each unaccredited fixed-facility (UFF), correspondence (UCR) and distance learning (UDL) law schools:

1) Total enrollment at all UFFs: 2015: 253 students: 2014: 257 students (Down 2%)

- 2) Average tuition to earn a J.D. degree at an UFF: 2015: \$34,447; 2014: \$34,666 (Down 1%).
- 3) Total enrollment at all UCRs: 2015: 918 students; 2014: 986 students (Down 7%)
- 4) Average tuition to earn a J.D. degree at an UCR: 2015: \$18,523; 2014: \$20,563 (Down 11%).
- 5) Total enrollment at all UDLs: 2015: 849 students; 2014: 969 students (Down 14%)
- 6) Average tuition to earn a J.D. degree at an UDL: 2015: \$31,387; 2014: \$30,587 (Up 3%).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee receive and file the summaries of the 2015 Annual Compliance Reports submitted by the registered, unaccredited law schools.

PROPOSED MOTION

Should the Subcommittee agree with this recommendation, the following motion is suggested:

Move that the summaries of the 2015 Annual Compliance Reports filed by California registered, unaccredited law schools be received and filed.