



**THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION/OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS**

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**180 Howard Street • San Francisco, CA 94105-1623 • (415) 538-2300  
845 S. Figueroa Street • Los Angeles, CA 90017-2515 • (213) 765-1500**

**Policy to Permit  
Headwear to be Worn in a Secure Examination Test Center  
Due to Religious Beliefs**

The California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLS) will consider petitions filed by applicants seeking exemptions from the examination test center prohibited items policy that would permit them to wear headwear while in a secure examination test center due to their religious beliefs, if they meet the criteria discussed below.

An applicant seeking an exemption must submit a petition, on the CBLS's form, indicating why a religious exemption is needed and the type of headwear he/she would like to bring into the secure testing area. The applicant must sign and declare under penalty of perjury that his or her religious beliefs necessitate the need for the exemption. The petition must be received no later than the final application filing deadline for the examination the applicant intends to take. Requests for an extension or an exception to this deadline will not be considered.

The petition should be forwarded to the following address:

The State Bar of California  
Department of Legal Specialization  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-1623

Any applicant granted permission to wear headwear while in a secure examination test center could be subject to inspection, if such inspection is required in order to verify the identity of the applicant or if there is suspected cheating.

Applicants granted exemptions that would permit them to wear headwear while the examination is in session must bring a copy of the Committee's letter with them to the examination test center, which confirms that they were granted an exemption, and be prepared to show the letter upon request by official Test Center personnel.

**CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION  
RELIGIOUS HEADWEAR EXEMPTION PETITION**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

State Bar Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am an applicant for the \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Name of Applicant)* *(Month & Year of Examination)*

Legal Specialist Examination, which will begin on \_\_\_\_\_.  
*(Date of First Day of Examination)*

I am seeking an exemption because my religious beliefs require that I wear the following headwear item while in a secure examination test center:

\_\_\_\_\_

A summary of the need for an exemption from the CBLS's policies follows:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I agree that I will not use the headwear item to bring any unauthorized item(s) into the examination test center and to be subject to inspection, if such inspection is required in order to verify my identity or if there is suspected cheating. I further agree to bring a copy of the CBLS's letter with me to the examination test center, which confirms that I have been granted an exemption, and will be prepared to show the letter upon request by official Test Center personnel.

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City/State)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Month/Date/Year)