



Supreme Court of California

350 McALLISTER STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-4797

TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE
CHIEF JUSTICE OF CALIFORNIA

(415) 865-7060

October 20, 2017

Michael G. Colantuono, President, Board of Trustees
Leah Wilson, Executive Director
State Bar of California
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: State Bar Fingerprinting

Dear Mr. Colantuono and Ms. Wilson:

As you know, Senate Bill No. 36 amended Business and Professions Code section 6054 to authorize the State Bar of California to require any applicant for admission and any current member of the State Bar to submit or resubmit fingerprints to the Department of Justice in order to establish the applicant's identity and to determine whether the applicant or member has a record of criminal conviction in this state or elsewhere. Such fingerprint records must be retained by the Department of Justice for the limited purpose of criminal arrest notification to the State Bar. Requiring fingerprints of all applicants and active members is a critical component of public protection and strengthens the State Bar's discipline system. Accordingly, now that Governor Brown has signed Senate Bill No. 36, the State Bar is directed to consider and present to the court any proposed court rules that may be appropriate to facilitate implementation of the fingerprinting requirement for all State Bar applicants and all active attorney members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Cantil-Sakauye".

Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye

cc: Hannah-Beth Jackson, Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee
Mark Stone, Chair of the Assembly Judiciary Committee