



# The State Bar of California

---

**RUBEN DURAN**  
Chair

Dear Future Attorney:

The State Bar of California looks forward to welcoming you to the ranks of licensed attorneys in California. Congratulations on your hard work and achievements!

You will soon have the ability to make an enormous difference in the lives of clients, the legal profession, and your community. To gain admission to the State Bar, you have passed the California Bar Examination and the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam and have met all of the State Bar's moral character requirements.

The State Bar's primary mission is to protect the public. We do that through the licensing, regulation, and discipline of attorneys; the advancement of the ethical and competent practice of law; and support of efforts for greater access to, and inclusion in, the legal system. The State Bar works every day to support that mission by carrying out the goals and objectives set forth in our [strategic plan](#).

Once you have taken the oath to uphold the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of California and forwarded your completed State Bar registration card to the State Bar, you will be an officer of the court and licensed to practice law in California. Along with this responsibility comes the expectation that you will adhere to ethical standards and conduct yourself with dignity, courtesy, and integrity. If you use this opportunity well, you will find that the law is an especially rewarding and satisfying career.

Too many Californians cannot afford essential legal help. Whatever you decide to do with your legal skills, I respectfully encourage you to devote some of your time to providing [pro bono service](#) to those in need and, if you can't give of your time, then please support the legal services organizations that do provide services or make a donation to the State Bar's [Justice Gap Fund](#).

The State Bar is here to help you. [Our website](#) is a good resource for information about your professional obligations and is a hub for regulatory information. It will be a valuable tool as you begin your new career and into the future.

Additionally, if you have an ethics question, you can contact the State Bar's confidential Ethics Hotline for guidance by following the instructions on the [Ethics webpage](#), or by calling 1-800-238-4427.

If you have questions about your license, attorney record, or compliance requirements, please do not hesitate to contact the State Bar's Attorney Regulation & Consumer Resources office at 1-888-800-3400 or [AttorneyRegulation@calbar.ca.gov](mailto:AttorneyRegulation@calbar.ca.gov).

Welcome to the practice of law in California; I wish you every success and a fulfilling career.

Best regards,

Ruben Duran  
Chair, Board of Trustees