



# The State Bar of California

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dear Future Attorney:

Congratulations! I commend you on your hard work and achievement in passing the California Bar Exam and Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam and meeting the State Bar of California's moral character requirements. The State Bar looks forward to welcoming you to the ranks of California licensed attorneys. You will soon have the opportunity and the tools to make an enormous difference in the lives of your clients, the legal profession, and your community.

The State Bar's primary mission is to protect the public. We do this through the licensing, regulation, and discipline of attorneys; the advancement of the ethical and competent practice of law; and the support of efforts to promote greater access to, and inclusion in, the legal system. Every day, the State Bar works to support this mission by carrying out the goals and objectives set forth in our [2022–2027 strategic plan](#).

After you take the oath to uphold the Constitutions of the United States and the State of California and forwarded your completed registration card to the State Bar, you will become 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 path you choose with your legal skills, I encourage you to devote time to [pro bono service](#) to those in need. If you are unable to give your time, please consider supporting vital legal services organizations in our state by donating to the State Bar's [Greg E. Knoll Justice Gap Fund](#).

The State Bar is here to help you. We are committed to establishing a positive, long-term partnership with you as you embark on this exciting new chapter in your career. Our [website](#) is a hub for information about your professional obligations and for regulatory information. Please pay special attention to the New Attorney Training Program included in your virtual oath packet. This required training is a great tool for avoiding common pitfalls.

If you have an ethics question, contact the State Bar's confidential Ethics Hotline by following the instructions on the [Ethics webpage](#). For questions about your license, attorney record, or compliance requirements, please do not hesitate to contact the State Bar's Regulation Division by submitting a [Licensee Records and Compliance Inquiry Form](#) or calling the Contact Center at 800-843-9053.

Best Regards,

José Cisneros  
Chair, Board of Trustees

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