

Printed from The State Bar of California website ([www.calbar.ca.gov](http://www.calbar.ca.gov)) on Friday, August 21, 2009

Location:

---

## Public Comment

**SUBJECT:** Modification of Justice Gap Fund Procedures

**BACKGROUND:** In August, 2006, the Governor signed AB 2301 authorizing the State Bar to facilitate collection of voluntary contributions to legal services programs. In July, 2008, the Board of Governors established the Justice Gap Fund by adding a request to attorneys for a \$100 voluntary contribution through the Bar's annual Member Fee Statement, and in the first year, \$1 million was successfully raised.

The Bar's Legal Services Trust Fund Program was designated to administer the Fund, utilizing the statutory formula established in Business and Professions Code Section 6210, et.seq. The legislation called upon the State Bar to review the Justice Gap Fund's procedures after the initial two-year period of collection. In 2009, the Joint Committee on the Justice Gap Fund, which includes representatives of the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission and California Commission on Access to Justice, concluded that no changes should be made at this time in the amount of funds requested, or in the distribution formula. However, it recommended the establishment of one higher recognition level for donations of \$1,000 or more.

**PROPOSAL:** Establishment of a higher recognition level for donations of \$1,000 or more to the Justice Gap Fund.

**ANY KNOWN FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACT:** Costs are covered under current approved budgets.

**NOTE:** *Publication for public comment is not, and shall not, be construed as a recommendation or approval by the Board of Governors of the materials published.*

### ATTACHMENTS:

- [Board Stakeholder Relations Committee Report, Open Session, July 17, 2009. Consent Item II.A.](#)
- [Memo to Board Committee on Stakeholder Relations; Agenda Item, "Proposed Modification of Justice Gap Fund Procedures."](#)

**SOURCE:** Modification of Justice Gap Fund Procedures August 19, 2009

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** August 19, 2009

### DIRECT COMMENTS TO:

[Stephanie Choy, Managing Director Legal Services Trust Fund](#) or [Mary Lavery Flynn, Acting Director Office of Legal Services](#)

The State Bar of California  
180 Howard St.  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
415-538-2529 or 2251  
415-538-2529 Fax

© 2009 The State Bar of California