Undocumented bar hopeful has many friends
State Supreme Court receives dozens of briefs supporting immigrant’s bid to join the bar

By Don J. DeBenedictis
Daily Journal Staff Writer

Donalee and community groups urged the state Supreme Court on Wednesday to admit an undocumented immigrant to practice law in California.

In its brief, 15 hour-long friend of the bar announcements, filed by the Los Angeles County Bar Association, petitioned the Supreme Court to let an undocumented immigrant, who turned 25 on Dec. 25, sit for the bar exam.

The brief was signed by State Supreme Court Justice Carlos R. Moreno and steel & Mandell LLP was one of the first of at least a dozen expected to be filed in support of the court’s request for comment on the bar-examination question, it is filing on Thursday, March 10, 2020.

State Supreme Court Justice Goodwin Liu is the person who would have to sign the certification that the State Bar should not have to figure out the immigration status of a person seeking to join the bar.

We hereby have no need for immigration,” he said in an interview.

In a letter for the state, Attorney General Kamala D. Harris argued that allowing undocumented immigrants would be consistent with state and federal policy that encourages immigrants, both documented and undocumented, to contribute to society and to help decide privacy expectations, said Judge Howie Wrubel of the California Court of Appeal.

"This court does not want to be in the business of making decisions that impact privacy. We do not want to be in the business of making decisions that impact the quality of life for individuals in California," he said.

Two lawyers bolster Jones Day’s Palo Alto office

Cooley white-collar, Latham corporate partners jump ship

By Ameera Butt

Two attorneys announced Wednesday the addition of a prominent white-collar defense partners from Cooley and Latham & Watkins to Jones Day.

Neal Stephanos, who successfully defended former California Attorney General Kamala Harris in a federal lawsuit over the state’s control of criminal investigations, is expected to be a member of the capital markets practice group.

Greg Lanier, partner in charge of Jones Day’s Palo Alto office, said Stephanos and the former General Counsel Kent Neal Stephens will aid in developing the firm’s technology practice and working with corporate clients.

"Greg is a great emerging companies law attorney,“ Stephanos said.

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"By allowing an undocumented immigrant to sit for the California bar exam, it makes it easier for individuals in California to contribute to society,“ he said.


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Covington tees off in sheriff's trial
California lawyers go to Arizona to try civil rights case against well-known official.

By_Hoddy_robison_San_Jose_Daily_Journal

A announces sheriff's efforts to crack down on illegal immigration will go before the Arizona Superior Court this month, the Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio expressed satisfaction with what he described as a fair and thorough process.

Arpaio had filed a civil lawsuit against the federal government in June, challenging the provisions of the Senate Bill 1070, which he said violated the civil rights of his deputies and members of the public.

The lawsuit was settled in December, with the court agreeing to a preliminary injunction that prevented the federal government from enforcing certain provisions of the law.

Arpaio has been a vocal proponent of stronger immigration enforcement and has been involved in several legal battles related to immigration issues.

Byrnes said he believes his clients have substantial evidence that Arpaio is acting unconstitutionally.

Arpaio expressed satisfaction with the Arizona Superior Court's ruling and said he would appeal if necessary.

Marcopolo County Sheriff Joe Arpaio

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