



**LATIN AMERICAN BAR ACTIVITIES SECTION
AUGUST 2021**

Notice of Pre-Suspension Status and Opportunity to Cure

The SBM Board of Commissioners (BOC) has determined that three SBM sections have reached pre-suspension status and will be dissolved January 30, 2022, unless action is taken. **Latin American Bar Activities Section** (LABAS) is one of the three designated pre-suspension sections.

[Please click here to review the BOC policy and procedures concerning section dissolution.](#)

To return the section to active status, here are the steps:

- (1) The section must hold a council election in accordance with the section's bylaws, [which you may review here](#), including all requirements for notice, quorum, etc. set forth in the section's bylaws.
- (2) No later than **January 30, 2022**, the section must submit written evidence to SBM staff documenting that the section has followed all election procedures set forth in its own section bylaws. Examples of evidence include meeting minutes, copies of notice provided to section members about the election, proof of quorum, vote tallies, etc.
- (3) No later than **January 30, 2022**, the section must submit the results of the council election [by using this form](#).

Failure to take these steps will result in automatic dissolution of the section.

In designating LABAS as a pre-suspension SBM section, the BOC relied on these facts:

LABAS currently has no officers or council members and has not held an election since 2017. LABAS has not submitted an annual report nor held an annual meeting since 2017. LABAS has been in violation of its own bylaws for years, including: Article III Council; Article IV Election of Officers; Article V Duties of Officers; Article VI Duties and Powers of the Council; and Article VII Section Meetings.

Specifically, LABAS is in violation of 6 of the BOC's 10 criteria for section dissolution. Here is the summary:

- 1. The section engages in impermissible activities under *Keller v. State Bar of California*.**
N.A.



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2. The section violates SBM bylaws.

LABAS has violated SBM Bylaws Article VII, Section 2—Officers, which states in part, “[e]ach Section shall have a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a council and such other officers as the Section Bylaws may provide. ...” LABAS currently has no officers or council members and has not held an election since 2017.

3. A State Bar licensee complains about being denied membership in the section.

N.A.

4. The section violates any other provision of its own bylaws.

LABAS has violated several provisions of its own bylaws, including: Article III Council, which requires a seven-member council; Article IV Election of Officers; Article V Duties of Officers; Article VI Duties and Powers of the Council; and Article VII Section Meetings, which requires an annual meeting. LABAS has no current officers or council members. Since 2017, LABAS has not elected any officers or council members, or held any meetings, including any annual meeting.

5. The section fails to meet the SBM deadline for submitting its annual report.

LABAS has not submitted an annual report since 2017.

6. The section fails to meet the SBM deadline for holding an annual meeting or reporting election results.

2017 was the last time LABAS held an annual meeting or reported election results.

7. The section violates any other SBM policy or procedure.

LABAS has not posted to its SBM Connect website any minutes from any council, committee, of full membership meeting since 2011.

8. The section’s end of year expenses exceed its account balance or the account balance falls to a level that makes it more likely than not that the section’s end of year expenses will exceed its account balance.

N.A.

9. A section member complains about treatment by the section.

N.A.

10. Section membership falls below 100.

As of June 16, 2021, LABAS membership fell to 87 members.

If you would like to participate in returning LABAS to active status by January, [please complete and submit this form](#).



Section Dissolution

LAW PRACTICE MANAGEMENT & LEGAL ADMINISTRATORS SECTION AUGUST 2021

Notice of Pre-Suspension Status and Opportunity to Cure

The SBM Board of Commissioners (BOC) has determined that three SBM sections have reached pre-suspension status and will be dissolved January 30, 2022, unless action is taken. **Law Practice Management and Legal Administrators** (LPMALAS) is one of the three designated pre-suspension sections.

[Please click here to review the BOC policy and procedures concerning section dissolution.](#)

To return the section to active status, here are the steps:

- (1) The section must hold a council election in accordance with the section's bylaws, [which you may review here](#), including all requirements for notice, quorum, etc. set forth in the section's bylaws.
- (2) No later than **January 30, 2022**, the section must submit written evidence to SBM staff documenting that the section has followed all election procedures set forth in its own section bylaws. Examples of evidence include meeting minutes, copies of notice provided to section members about the election, proof of quorum, vote tallies, etc.
- (3) No later than **January 30, 2022**, the section must submit the results of the council election [by using this form](#).

Failure to take these steps will result in automatic dissolution of the section.

In designating LPMALAS as a pre-suspension SBM section, the BOC relied on these facts:

LPMALAS is in violation of 5 of the BOC's 10 criteria for section dissolution. Here is the summary:

1. **The section violates AO 2004-1** (impermissible activities in violation of *Keller v. State Bar of California*)
N.A.
2. **The section violates SBM bylaws.**
LPMALAS has violated SBM Bylaws Article VII, Section 2—Officers, which states in part, “[e]ach Section shall have a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a council and such other officers as the Section Bylaws may provide. ...” LPMALAS has no current officers or council and has not held any elections since September 2018.



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3. A State Bar licensee complains about being denied membership in the section.

N.A.

4. The section violates any other provision of its own bylaws.

LPMALAS has violated several provisions of its own bylaws, including: Article I, Section 1.3, which states in part, “[t]he purpose of the Section shall be to serve its members and the members of [SBM], through publications [and] programs ...” LPMALAS has not published its newsletter, or any other publication, since 2017. The last known LPMALAS program was held in 2019. LPMALAS has also violated Article IV of its own bylaws, which requires 5 officers, 6 at-large council members, and a non-voting law student liaison. No person has served any of these roles since October 2019.

5. The section fails to meet the SBM deadline for submitting its annual report.

LPMALAS has not submitted an annual report since 2019.

6. The section fails to meet the SBM deadline for holding an annual meeting or reporting election results.

2019 was the last time LPMALAS held an annual meeting or reported any election results.

7. The section violates any other SBM policy or procedure.

LPMALAS has not posted minutes from any council, committee, or full membership meeting since September 2018.

8. The section’s end of year expenses exceed its account balance or the account balance falls to a level that makes it more likely than not that the section’s end of year expenses will exceed its account balance.

N.A.

9. A section member complains about treatment by the section.

N.A.

10. Section membership falls below 100.

N.A.

If you would like to participate in returning LPMALAS to active status by January, [please complete and submit this form](#).



Section Dissolution

SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION AUGUST 2021

Notice of Pre-Suspension Status and Opportunity to Cure

During its July 23, 2021 meeting, the SBM Board of Commissioners (BOC) determined that three SBM sections have reached pre-suspension status and **will be dissolved January 30, 2022**, unless action is taken. Senior Lawyers Section (SLS) is one of the three designated pre-suspension sections.

[Please click here to review the BOC policy and procedures concerning section dissolution.](#)

To return the section to active status, here are the steps:

- (1) The section must hold a council election in accordance with the section's bylaws, [which you may review here](#), including all requirements for notice, quorum, etc. set forth in the section's bylaws.
- (2) No later than **January 30, 2022**, the section must submit written evidence to SBM staff documenting that the section has followed all election procedures set forth in its own section bylaws. Examples of evidence include meeting minutes, copies of notice provided to section members about the election, proof of quorum, vote tallies, etc.
- (3) No later than **January 30, 2022**, the section must submit the results of the council election [by using this form](#).

Failure to take these steps will result in automatic dissolution of the section.

In designating SLS as a pre-suspension SBM section, the BOC relied on these facts:

SLS is in violation of 6 of the BOC's 10 criteria for section dissolution. Here is the summary:

1. **The section violates AO 2004-1** (impermissible activities in violation of *Keller v. State Bar of California*)

N.A.

2. **The section violates SBM bylaws.**

SLS has violated SBM Bylaws Article VII, Section 2—Officers, which states in part, “[e]ach Section shall have a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a council and such other officers as the Section Bylaws may provide. ...” SLS has no current officers and has not held an election since its inception in fall 2019, including holding no election to replace its Chair-Elect who resigned almost immediately after the section launched in fall 2019.



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3. A State Bar licensee complains about being denied membership in the section.

N.A.

4. The section violates any other provision of its own bylaws.

SLS has violated several provisions of its own bylaws, including:

Article I – Name, Purpose, and Goals

“The purpose of this Section shall be to ... plan and carry out programs and activities of interest to members of the Section, to coordinate programs for members of the Section with national and local bar associations, to protect the public by providing resources on the ethical and practical issues related to transitioning from the practice of law [and] to be a resource for retirement planning ...” SLS has not planned or carried out any programs or activities. Further, SLS has never held a full member meeting or any committee meetings. The last meeting of the section council was held February 20, 2020.

Article III – Council and Officers, which requires 5 officers and 9 at-large council members. SLS has no current officers and has held no election since its inception in fall 2019.

Article IV – Election, which requires a council election at an annual meeting. SLS has not held an annual meeting or a council election.

Article V – Duties of Officers, which, among other things, requires the Chair to “present at each annual meeting of the Section a report of the work of the Section for the current year.” And requires the Secretary to “prepare a summary or digest of the proceedings of the Section for presentation at the annual meeting of the Section, and to be filed with the State Bar of Michigan ...” SLS has not held an annual meeting nor submitted any annual report.

Article VI – Duties and Powers of the Council, which requires the council to fill any vacancy. The SLS Chair-Elect resigned shortly after SLS was formed in fall 2019 and the vacancy was never filled. Also, Article VI requires “no fewer than four (4) [council] meetings per fiscal year.” SLS has held no meetings in the current fiscal year, council meetings or otherwise. During FY2020, SLS did hold four council meetings, but none after February 2020.

Article VII – Committees, which requires three standing committees that have no current members or scheduled meetings.

Article VIII – Section Meetings, which requires an annual meeting. SLS has not held an annual meeting.

5. The section fails to meet the SBM deadline for submitting its annual report.

SLS has not submitted an annual report since its inception in fall 2019



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- 6. The section fails to meet the SBM deadline for holding an annual meeting or reporting election results.**

SLS has not held an annual meeting and has not reported election results since submitting its original council roster in fall 2019.

- 7. The section violates any other SBM policy or procedure.**

SLS has not posted minutes from any meeting since February 2020.

- 8. The section's end of year expenses exceed its account balance or the account balance falls to a level that makes it more likely than not that the section's end of year expenses will exceed its account balance.**

N.A.

- 9. A section member complains about treatment by the section.**

At least 8 SLS members have complained to staff about treatment by the section. Of those, at least 3 have resigned from the section during the current fiscal year, in addition to the resignation of the Chair-Elect in November 2019, shortly after the section launched.

- 10. Section membership falls below 100.**

N.A.

The BOC dissolved the original voluntary Senior Lawyers Section in 2009 due to inactivity and lack of interest. The BOC replaced it with the SBM-funded auto-enrollment section know as Master Lawyers Section (MLS).

From 2010 to 2018, MLS failed to take hold as a sustainable section and was ultimately dissolved.

In 2019, the BOC created the current voluntary SLS. As shown, SLS has no officers and has not held an election since its inception. SLS is also in violation of several provisions of its own bylaws.

The newly-formed current version of SLS launched in 2019. In the two years since, SLS has not held an election, a program, an annual meeting, any full membership meeting, or any committee meeting; and it has not submitted an annual report.

If you would like to participate in returning SLS to active status by January, [please complete and submit this form](#).