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June 10, 2022

Dear Colleagues:

Without a doubt, the past two years have proven to be incredibly challenging ones for public schools. As we all know, those who serve educational agencies have been similarly challenged as they try to navigate ever changing laws and regulations that impact schools. The California Council of School Attorneys (“CCSA”) understands these challenges and is committed to providing resources to our members to support them in their practice. I am writing to remind you of the valuable resources CCSA members have at their fingertips and encourage you to renew or re-establish your CCSA membership, and encourage your colleagues to join CCSA.

***Benefits of Membership***

**Relevant CLE Compliance:** CCSA makes CLE compliance easy and economical through programs that are directly relevant to education law attorneys at every level of experience. CCSA programs ensure that participants receive information and materials that are current, designed for lawyers, and tailored to the practice of California education law. Each of our conferences provides a combination of plenary sessions on matters of general interest to education attorneys and break-out sessions that cover areas of specialized expertise such as special education, facilities, and labor relations.

We provide four CLE accredited workshops a year, one in May (Spring Conference), one in September (Fall Conference), and two days in December (Annual Conference). These conferences include all of the required hours you will need to obtain MCLE compliance. Our 2-day Annual Conference is held each December in conjunction with CSBA’s Annual Education Conference, which will be in San Diego this year.

**UPDATED CONTENT – MCLE Videos On-Demand:** CCSA maintains an on-demand catalog of session recordings from past CCSA conferences. Recordings are available for CCSA members to purchase at \$30 per recording. The catalog is regularly updated for CCSA members.

**Listserv Forums:** CCSA membership enables you to access a state-wide listserv forum for consideration and discussion of the practical and professional issues faced by education law attorneys. Want to get some insight from others member attorneys in your area of practice on how they are dealing with a specific legal issue? Ask those who are on the listserv! CCSA members may subscribe to California specific listserv groups for Labor and Employment, Charter Schools, COVID-19, Facilities/Business, Governance, Special Education, and Student Issues.

**NEW Access to Layoff Decisions and Teacher Dismissal and MIRS Decisions:** CCSA members have member only access to CCSA's library of OAH layoff decisions. CCSA also now offers its members a *new resource* – access to OAH teacher dismissal and MIRS decisions in a searchable database.

**NEW Optional COSA Membership Add-On:** As of May 18, 2022, the CCSA Board of Directors reached agreement with the Council of School Attorneys (COSA) to maintain affiliated status between CCSA and COSA. This means that all CCSA members who desire to also be members of COSA may do so at the lower COSA affiliated membership rate. In order to benefit from the lower COSA affiliated rate, you must be a CCSA member. CCSA Regular Members continue to have the option of adding on COSA membership for an additional \$270 to their CCSA membership, and CCSA In-House Members can add on COSA membership for an additional \$200. (CCSA and COSA In-House Memberships are only available to attorneys who are employees of a public school district, COE, or community college district).

**Access to Potential Clients:** Membership in CCSA provides great opportunities to share your knowledge and expertise with your colleagues and gain access to clients and potential clients at CCSA conferences. In addition, the CCSA Board selects presenters for CSBA's Annual Pre-conference Legal Symposium for Experienced Board Members attended by school board members. The Board selects presenters for the Legal Symposium based on a variety of factors including an individual's prior involvement with CCSA conferences and makes every attempt to ensure these limited presentation opportunities are shared equitably among those who are actively involved with CCSA.

**Collegiality:** CCSA promotes and fosters one of the most collegial attorney organizations in California. A member-run organization, CCSA relies primarily on the expertise and good will of its members to function. CCSA operates on the premise that we are individually most successful when we all shine and support one another. CCSA members enjoy sharing their expertise and being affiliated with an organization that values integrity and collaboration. Many of us believe this is one of the most valuable benefits of being a part of CCSA.

**Networking Opportunities:** Attending CCSA conferences and receptions offers a great way to meet others in your fields of practice, or areas where you would like to develop. CCSA welcomes and designs programs for attorneys at every level from seasoned experts to those new to school law.

**Outreach to Future School Lawyers:** We believe in promoting the value of education law as an important and growing practice area and the source of satisfying career options.

Given the many benefits of CCSA membership, we are hopeful that all education-law firms and organizations, both private and in-house, will expand their participation with this terrific group of attorneys.

***CCSA's membership structure for the 2022-2023 membership year is as follows:***

- CCSA Regular Membership — \$165
  - COSA Regular Membership (Optional add-on effective July 1, 2022) — \$270
- CCSA In-House Membership — \$135
  - COSA In-House Membership (Optional add-on effective July 1, 2022) — \$200

*(CCSA and COSA In-House Memberships are only available to attorneys who are employees of a public school district or COE).*

The 2022-2023 membership form is attached, and we encourage you to join/renew today! Thank you for your continued support of CCSA.

Sincerely,



Marisa Lincoln

President-Elect

On behalf of CCSA 2022 Board of Directors: Robert Jacobsen, Marisa Lincoln, Melissa Brown, Amy Brandt, Keith Yeomans, and Bill Schuetz.

Attachment: 2022-2023 CCSA Membership Form