



# SCHOOL & COLLEGE LEGAL SERVICES OF CALIFORNIA

*A Joint Powers Authority  
serving school and  
college districts  
throughout the state.*

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** All Clients

**From:** Carl D. Corbin, General Counsel *CDC*

**Date:** August 18, 2015

**Re:** SCLS Staff Update, End of the School Year Survey, Website, Public Wi-Fi, 2015-2016 Workshop List

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Welcome to the 2015-2016 school year! I want to thank you for allowing School and College Legal Services (SCLS) to assist you in addressing your legal needs.

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on SCLS staff, discuss the end of school year survey, updated SCLS website, public Wi-Fi, and provide a copy of the 2015-2016 SCLS workshop list.

### Update on SCLS Staff

Margaret Merchat retired on June 30, 2015, after many years of dedicated and tireless service. I know that Margaret has contacted many of you to discuss her future plans and express her appreciation to have worked with you. Please let me know if you any questions regarding Margaret's retirement.

Steve Reiner joined our office as a full-time attorney on July 1, 2015. Mr. Reiner is dedicated to the concept of preventative law through counseling and advising clients of issues prior to them escalating, as well as providing critical legal updates and workshops. Prior to joining SCLS, Mr. Reiner practiced civil litigation in federal and state court in California for eight years where he litigated numerous cases and gained valuable experience in all aspects of litigation, including depositions, written discovery, oral advocacy, and negotiating settlements through mediation. He has transferred those skills to his practice at SCLS where he advises clients on the legal implications of decisions with the goal of avoiding litigation. Mr. Reiner's practice focuses on personnel matters at K-12 and community college districts, including discipline, grievances, and hearings.



### End of the School Year Survey

As you may recall, we sent an email to our clients requesting that you complete (sometime between May 15 to June 15, 2015) our annual “end of the school year” survey regarding the services provided by SCLS. We collected survey responses from over seventy respondents. We appreciate the feedback from all of our clients that responded. The results of the survey demonstrated significant satisfaction with the services provided by SCLS. Please see attached a two-page summary of the survey results.

### Website

Based on client feedback, our SCLS website has been updated and re-designed. Among other changes, clients should be able to quickly search for and obtain previously published Legal Updates. Please contact our office at [legal\\_services@sclscal.org](mailto:legal_services@sclscal.org) in order to obtain a user name and password in order to access and search our library of Legal Updates.

### Wi-Fi

Also based on client feedback, we will be providing a public Wi-Fi portal to access the Internet for clients visiting our office. Please see our receptionist or ask any staff member for instructions.

### 2015-2016 Workshop List

Please find attached a schedule of 2015-2016 workshops available for attendance by any of our clients by registering with our office. Please note that the list may be revised based on our clients’ needs and the needs of the office. The workshops are scheduled to occur in Santa Rosa; however, upon request of a client, we will consider offering workshops at alternative locations such as at Santa Cruz, Mendocino, and/or Humboldt County Offices of Education.

Upon request by a client on a case-by-case basis, we will consider opening the workshop to participation by teleconference. Please note that participation by teleconference invariably does not provide the same immersive and interactive experience as attending the workshop in person, but we appreciate that for some clients attendance by teleconference is better than completely foregoing the workshop.

Lastly, please contact me if you would like a workshop developed and provided to just your district.

On behalf of all of the attorneys at SCLS we thank you for your continued support of our organization!



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## 2015-16 WORKSHOPS

as of August 18, 2015

### Sonoma County Office of Education 5340 Skylane Blvd., Santa Rosa, CA 95403

			Anticipated Audience
	September 15, 2015 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Student Discipline Including Special Education Issues Oak Rooms D & E Carl D. Corbin	K-12
	September 16, 2015 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Sexual Harassment Prevention Redwood Rooms A & B Monica D. Batanero	K-12/CCD
	October 7, 2015 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	School Site Administrators Part I Oak Rooms D & E Carl D. Corbin and Mia N. Robertshaw	K-12
	October 13, 2015 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Brown Act, Ethics, and Conflicts Oak Rooms D & E Patrick C. Wilson	K-12/CCD
	October 21, 2015 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Redwood Rooms A & B Carl D. Corbin	K-12
	November 4, 2015 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Legally Defensible Special Education Assessments and Related Issues Redwood Rooms A & B Carl D. Corbin	K-12
	November 9, 2015 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	School Site Administrators Part II Oak Rooms D & E Carl D. Corbin and Mia N. Robertshaw	K-12

		Anticipated Audience
November 16, 2015 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Special Education Hot Topics Review of Relevant Legal Decisions Redwood Rooms A & B Jennifer E. Nix	K-12
November 16, 2015 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Sexual Harassment Prevention Redwood Rooms A & B Mia N. Robertshaw	K-12/CCD
December 1, 2015 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Campus Security Oak Rooms D & E Frank Zotter, Jr.	K-12/CCD
December 8, 2015 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Bullying, Cyberbullying, and Student Free Speech Redwood Rooms A & B Loren W. Soukup	K-12/CCD
December 9, 2015 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Special Education ERMHS/and RTCs Oak Rooms D & E Monica D. Batanero and Jennifer E. Nix	K-12
December 15, 2015 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Public Records Act Compliance in a Digital Age Oak Rooms D & E Frank Zotter, Jr.	K-12/CCD
December 17, 2015 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Brown Act, Ethics, and Conflicts for New Board Members Redwood Rooms A & B Patrick C. Wilson	K-12/CCD
January 13, 2016 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Sexual Harassment Prevention Redwood Rooms A & B Mia N. Robertshaw	K-12/CCD
February 4, 2016 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Employee Leaves Oak Rooms D & E Nancy L. Klein	K-12/CCD
February 9, 2016 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Review of New Legislation Impacting Education for 2016 Oak Rooms D & E Carl D. Corbin	K-12

		Anticipated Audience
February 16, 2016 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Form 700 Basics Oak Rooms D & E Frank Zotter, Jr.	K-12/CCD
March 2, 2016 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Sexual Harassment Prevention Redwood Rooms A & B Monica D. Batanero	K-12/CCD
April 5, 2016 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Sexual Harassment Prevention Oak Rooms D & E Mia N. Robertshaw	K-12/CCD
April 21, 2016 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Public Contracting FAQ Redwood Rooms A & B Patrick C. Wilson and Loren W. Soukup	K-12/CCD
May 25, 2016 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Sexual Harassment Prevention Oak Rooms D & E Monica D. Batanero	K-12/CCD

**Workshop dates and times subject to change.**  
**Check [www.sclscal.org](http://www.sclscal.org) for more details regarding the above programs and registration.**