



**THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA
COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS/OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS**

**180 Howard Street • San Francisco, CA 94105-1639 • (415) 538-2300
845 S. Figueroa Street • Los Angeles, CA 90017-2515 • (213) 765-1500**

**SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER REQUIREMENT RELATING TO
APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO PRACTICE LAW IN CALIFORNIA**

All applicants for admission to practice law are required to provide a social security number pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 30 (California's tax enforcement provisions) and Family Code Section 17520 (Child Support Enforcement Program.)

Business and Professions Code Section 30 provides that:

[A] licensing board may not process any application for an original license or for renewal of a license unless the applicant or licensee provides its federal employer identification number or social security number where requested on the application.

Family Code Section 17520(6)(d) provides that:

Notwithstanding any other law, all boards shall collect social security numbers from all applicants for the purpose of matching the names of the certified list provided by the department to applicants and licensees and of responding to requests for information made by child support agencies.

EXEMPTIONS

Foreign attorney applicants AND foreign-educated law school applicants who are not admitted to the practice of law who are not able to obtain social security numbers because they do not qualify for one, may request that they be exempted from the requirement of providing a social security number. To qualify for an exemption, applicants must state the reason they are unable to qualify for a social security number, provide an alternate identification number and attest to not being in arrears with any court ordered child or family support obligations. (*See Business and Professions Code Section 6060.6.*) Applicants may request exemptions from the social security number requirement by completing and submitting the "Request for Social Security Number Exemption Required for Admission to Practice Law in California" form and the General Applicant/Attorney Applicant registration form. Both forms must be submitted at the same time; otherwise, the process will be delayed.

Contact the Office of Admissions for a Social Security Number Exemption packet at (213) 765-1500.