



Board and Bureau Relations Department of Consumer Affairs Update

Quarterly Board Meeting February 12 – 14, 2025

Governor's Executive Order

On January 29, 2025, Governor Newsom released Executive Order N-15-25 providing quick recovery relief for local businesses by deferring renewal fees and waiving other fees for DCA licensees in the Los Angeles wildfire areas.

Specific DCA provisions include:

- DCA licensees whose licenses expire between January 1st and July 1st 2025 will be granted a one-year extension to pay their renewal fee if their business or residence address is in certain zip codes impacted by the fires. Licensees will still need to renew their license, but their fees will be postponed for one year.
- In addition, duplicate or replacement licenses or wall certificates will be provided free of charge until January 7th, 2026 and delinquency fees are suspended until July 1st 2025 for those in the impacted areas.

DCA met with Board and Bureau leadership January 29th after the Executive Order was released by the Governor and discussed the Executive Order and its implementation. DCA is providing messaging to the boards and bureaus for dissemination to the impacted licensees, as well as consistent messaging for use on all board and bureau websites. Additionally, we asked the boards and bureaus to share the Executive Order and fee deferral opportunity with stakeholders. We want to sure this information is shared with as many as possible.



In addition, DCA has a specific Disaster Help Center webpage accessible at www.dca.ca.gov that includes information on the Executive Order, FAQs, and other important resources that may be helpful as our licensees and survivors as they navigate the rebuilding process.

DCA also has a dedicated toll-free phone number -- **1-800-799-8314** -- and email -- cafires@dca.ca.gov -- available for fire survivors needing assistance.

Each DCA board and Bureau website has been updated with information for individuals impacted by the fires. In addition, DCA's Office of Information Services – DCA's IT team -- has developed landing pages for all online databases so those going through the renewal process will receive information regarding the fee deferral when they go to renew their license online. DCA has also provided each board and bureau a list of the impacted licensees based on the provided zip codes and is encouraging boards and bureaus to reach out to these licensees directly to inform them of the Executive order and the relief available.

We are grateful to the Governor for this opportunity to assist our licensees in their time of unprecedented need. A special thank you to DCA board and bureau leadership for their continued partnership and commitment to help survivors. DCA sincerely appreciates all the Board's/Committee's efforts.

Governor's 2025-26 Proposed State Budget

Governor Newsom released his proposed 2025-26 State budget on January 10, which included eight Budget Change Proposals (BCPs) for DCA's boards and bureaus. Additionally, DCA's vacancy reduction and government efficiency plans were approved by the Department of Finance and may be made official in the Spring revisions.

The Governor remains committed to funding resources to address California's housing and homelessness crisis. Included in the Governor's proposed budget is



the creation of a dedicated California Housing and Homeless Agency. The Department of Consumer Affairs and other regulators currently under the Business and Consumer Services and Housing Agency would form a Consumer Protection Agency.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for DCA to better align with other consumer protection entities, as one Consumer Protection Agency. With a Consumer Protection Agency Secretary within the Governor's cabinet, this is an exciting opportunity that will only strengthen our mission, momentum, and delivery of services to California.

The Governor's reorganization proposal will be reviewed by the non-partisan Little Hoover Commission and the Legislature in the Spring. As more information is available, DCA will continue to keep board leadership updated.

FORM 700 Filing Changes Effective January 1, 2025

The Governor signed [AB 1170](#) (Chapter 211, Statutes of 2024, Valencia), which requires Board Members to now file their Form 700s electronically with the Fair Political Practice Commission (FPPC) using the FPPC's electronic filing system.

Effective January 1, 2025, DCA Board Members MUST file Form 700s through the FPPC's online system. Filings will no longer be filed via the NetFile portal that DCA Board Members have been using for many years. Additionally, paper filings will **not** be accepted.

The FPPC emailed all Board Members on January 2, 2025, with a link to the FPPC portal and login information. As a reminder, the Annual Form 700 Filing deadline is **Tuesday, April 1, 2025**. Please contact Board and Bureau Relations with questions regarding the new requirements at MemberRelations@dca.ca.gov.



President's Training – February 19, 2025

DCA invites presidents and vice presidents to attend our annual President's training on February 19, 2025, from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. This virtual training is for board members who are new to the role of president or vice president, and those who have served in the role for a year or more. The training will review the role of a board president, communication best practices with the Executive Officer and board members, as well as the President's administrative duties. It also includes a panel of prior board members who will share their knowledge and expertise, and answer questions from attendees. Learning from each other is a large part of this training and we look forward to seeing all presidents and vice presidents there. Please register online using DCA's Learning Management System, or LMS.

Board Member Orientation (BMOT) – 2025 Training Dates

Save the Date! Board Member Orientation or BMOT must be completed within one year of appointment and re-appointment to the board. BMOT is an all-day virtual training that DCA will offer on March 26, June 18, and October 22. Please register for the first available date to be compliant. Board Members can register for BMOT using DCA's Learning Management System, or LMS.

Board and Bureau Relations Team

Finally, I wanted to provide an update regarding DCA's Board and Bureau Relations Team. Yvonne Dorantes served as the Assistant Deputy Director of Board and Bureau Relations since October 2022. On December 6, the Governor appointed Yvonne as the Assistant Deputy Director of Legislative and Government Affairs at the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services. Yvonne's last day at DCA was December 31. We appreciate Yvonne's dedication to the Board and Bureau Relations team and wish her well in her new role.