

CALIFORNIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OVERVIEW OF THE CURRENT REGULATORY PROGRAM

As of December 2023

Section 1 –

Background and Description of the Board and Regulated Profession

Provide a short explanation of the history and function of the board.¹ Describe the occupations/profession that are licensed and/or regulated by the board (Practice Acts vs. Title Acts).

The California Athletic Commission (Commission) was created by an initiative in 1924 and is now a part of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA). The Commission was established because of the increasing number of boxer injuries/deaths occurring in the ring; and the involvement of unethical persons, management, and promoters in the sport. Prior to the Commission, no government agency existed to provide oversight of managers, promoters, event officiating; or to protect the health and ensure the safety of the participants. Today, the Commission oversees the licensing, prohibited substance testing, and event regulation throughout the state with a seven-member Commission; five appointed by the Governor, one by the Senate Rules Committee, and one by the Speaker of the Assembly. The full Commission meets at least four times per year to 1) handle matters related to licensure and appeals of license denials, suspensions and fines; 2) propose and review regulations or legislation focused on maintaining the health and safety of fighters; 3) consider issues related to the Boxer's Pension Program and the Neurological Examination Account; 4) evaluate funding and revenue strategies; and 5) address a variety of topics brought forth by stakeholders. The Commission licenses fighters, promoters, managers, seconds, matchmakers, referees, judges, timekeepers, professional trainers and approves ringside physicians. The Commission regulates professional events within its jurisdiction and regulates each event by staffing the event with several specialized and well-trained athletic inspectors to enforce the regulations related to combat sporting events.

1. Describe the make-up and functions of each of the board's committees (cf., Section 12, Attachment B).

Advisory Committee on Medical and Safety Standards specifically authorized by Business and Professions Code section 18645. This Committee consists of five licensed physicians and surgeons appointed by the Commission. The purpose is to recommend medical and safety standards for the conduct of boxing and mixed martial arts contests. The current members are Dr. Paul Wallace, (Chair), Dr. Robert Ruelaz, Dr. Diego Allende, Dr. Rhonda Rand, and Dr. Jonathan Schleimer.

Mixed Martial Arts Retirement Plan Subcommittee (Commissioner De Mars and Commissioner Gruwell) Formed by the Commission to work with the Executive Officer to make recommendations for creating a retirement plan for Mixed Martial Artists similar to the Boxers Pension Plan.

¹ The term "board" in this document refers to a board, bureau, commission, committee, council, department, division, program, or agency, as applicable. Please change the term "board" throughout this document to appropriately refer to the entity being reviewed.

Specialty License Plate Subcommittee (Commissioner Wetch and Commissioner Hendrickson) Formed by the Commission to work with the Executive Officer to make recommendations for creating a specialty license plate that would fund the Boxers Pension Plan and the Mixed Martial Arts Retirement Plan.

Ringside Officials Subcommittee (Chair Villegas and Vice Chair Williams) Formed by the full Commission to Evaluate and recommend any changes to the training, evaluation, and pay of all officials. Priority is to ensure proper training and education so that the officials in California are aware of and skilled in the rules and regulations within the state.

Instant Replay Subcommittee (Chair Villegas and Commissioner Shen-Urquidez) Formed by the full Commission to create and recommend instant replay procedures for combat sporting events. Priority is to ensure fairness in competition and proper training and education so that the officials in California are aware of and skilled in the rules and regulations within the state.

Gender Equity Subcommittee (Vice Chair Lehman, Commissioner Shen-Urquidez) Formed by the Chair to research and address issues related to gender equity including, but not limited to, sexual harassment in gyms and/or competitions, length of rounds in female boxing compared to female mixed martial arts, income/pay disparity, weight cutting for females, education for trainers regarding gender specific issues, and improper barriers to those of different genders for fight, coaching, and/or management opportunities.

Table 1a. Attendance			
JOHN CARVELLI			
Date Appointed:	5/8/2013		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	12/11/18	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	2/19/19	Anaheim, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	5/14/19	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	7/22/19	San Diego, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	10/15/19	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	12/17/19	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	5/29/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/16/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	7/20/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	10/6/20	Teleconference	Y
Special Meeting	11/23/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	12/21/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/1/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/7/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/13/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	11/30/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/1/22	Teleconference	Y

Table 1a. Attendance
MARY LEHMAN

Date Appointed:	3/28/2013		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	12/11/18	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	2/19/19	Anaheim, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	5/14/19	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	7/22/19	San Diego, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	10/15/19	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	12/17/19	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	5/29/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/16/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	7/20/20	Teleconference	N
Regular Meeting	10/6/20	Teleconference	Y
Special Meeting	11/23/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	12/21/20	Teleconference	Y

Table 1a. Attendance			
MARTHA SHEN-URQUIDEZ			
Date Appointed:	3/28/2013		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	12/11/18	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	2/19/19	Anaheim, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	5/14/19	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	7/22/19	San Diego, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	10/15/19	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	12/17/19	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	5/29/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/16/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	7/20/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	10/6/20	Teleconference	Y
Special Meeting	11/23/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	12/21/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/1/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/7/21	Teleconference	Y

Table 1a. Attendance			
VAN GORDAN SAUTER			
Date Appointed:	3/11/2015		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	12/11/18	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	2/19/19	Anaheim, CA	Y

Regular Meeting	5/14/19	Los Angeles, CA	N
Regular Meeting	7/22/19	San Diego, CA	N
Regular Meeting	10/15/19	Los Angeles, CA	N
Regular Meeting	12/17/19	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	5/29/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/16/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	7/20/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	10/6/20	Teleconference	Y
Special Meeting	11/23/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	12/21/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/1/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/7/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/13/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	11/30/21	Teleconference	Y

Table 1a. Attendance			
LUIS AYALA			
Date Appointed:	4/15/2015		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	12/11/18	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	2/19/19	Anaheim, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	5/14/19	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	7/22/19	San Diego, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	10/15/19	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	12/17/19	Sacramento, CA	N

Table 1a. Attendance			
JAMES ARABY			
Date Appointed:	1/10/2019		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	2/19/19	Anaheim, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	5/14/19	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	7/22/19	San Diego, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	10/15/19	Los Angeles, CA	N
Regular Meeting	12/17/19	Sacramento, CA	Y

Table 1a. Attendance			
VERNON WILLIAMS			
Date Appointed:	3/11/2015		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	12/11/18	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	2/19/19	Anaheim, CA	Y

Regular Meeting	5/14/19	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	10/15/19	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	12/17/19	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	3/1/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/7/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/13/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	11/30/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/1/22	Teleconference	Y
Special Meeting	5/4/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/28/22	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	10/24/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	12/12/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/6/23	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	6/5/23	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/11/23	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	12/9/23	San Francisco, CA	

Table 1a. Attendance			
PETER VILLEGAS			
Date Appointed:	1/24/2020		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	5/29/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/16/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	7/20/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	10/6/20	Teleconference	Y
Special Meeting	11/23/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	12/21/20	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/1/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/7/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/13/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	11/30/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/1/22	Teleconference	Y
Special Meeting	5/4/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/28/22	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	10/24/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	12/12/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/6/23	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	6/5/23	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/11/23	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	12/9/23	San Francisco, CA	

Table 1a. Attendance	
DOUGLAS HENDRICKSON	
Date Appointed:	1/26/2021

Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	3/1/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/7/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/13/21	Teleconference	N
Regular Meeting	11/30/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/1/22	Teleconference	N
Special Meeting	5/4/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/28/22	Los Angeles, CA	N
Regular Meeting	10/24/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	12/12/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/6/23	Los Angeles, CA	N
Regular Meeting	6/5/23	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/11/23	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	12/9/23	San Francisco, CA	

Table 1a. Attendance			
MICHAEL HARDEMAN			
Date Appointed:	7/4/2021		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	9/13/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	11/30/21	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/1/22	Teleconference	Y
Special Meeting	5/4/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/28/22	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	10/24/22	Teleconference	Y

Table 1a. Attendance			
ANNMARIA DE MARS			
Date Appointed:	4/14/2022		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Special Meeting	5/4/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/28/22	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	10/24/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	12/12/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/6/23	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	6/5/23	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/11/23	Sacramento, CA	Y

Regular Meeting	12/9/23	San Francisco, CA	
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Table 1a. Attendance			
CHRISTOPHER GRUWELL			
Date Appointed:	4/14/2022		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Special Meeting	5/4/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	6/28/22	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	10/24/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	12/12/22	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	3/6/23	Los Angeles, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	6/5/23	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/11/23	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	12/9/23	San Francisco, CA	

Table 1a. Attendance			
RONALD FIORE			
Date Appointed:	3/13/2023		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	6/5/23	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/11/23	Sacramento, CA	Y
Regular Meeting	12/9/23	San Francisco, CA	

Table 1a. Attendance			
SCOTT WETCH			
Date Appointed:	3/15/2023		
Meeting Type	Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attended?
Regular Meeting	6/5/23	Teleconference	Y
Regular Meeting	9/11/23	Sacramento, CA	N
Regular Meeting	12/9/23	San Francisco, CA	

Table 1b. Board/Committee Member Roster					
Member Name (Include any vacancies and a brief member biography)	Date First Appointed	Date Re-appointed	Date Term Expires	Appointing Authority	Type (public or professional)
JOHN CARVELLI	5/8/2013	2/16/2018	1/1/2022	Governor	Public
MARY LEHMAN	3/28/2013	2/9/2017	1/1/2021	Governor	Public
MARTHA SHEN-URQUIDEZ	3/28/2013	2/9/2017	1/1/2021	Governor	Public
VAN GORDAN SAUTER	3/11/2015	2/16/2018	1/1/2021	Governor	Public
VERNON WILLIAMS	3/11/2015	1/5/2019	1/1/2022	Governor	Professional
VERNON WILLIAMS	1/26/2023	N/A	1/1/2027	Governor	Professional
LUIS AYALA	4/15/2015	N/A	1/1/2029	Senate Rules	Public

				Committee	
JAMES ARABY	1/10/2019	N/A	1/1/2023	Speaker of Assembly	Public
PETER VILLEGAS	1/24/2020	1/19/2023	1/1/2027	Speaker of Assembly	Public
MICHAEL HARDEMAN	7/14/2021	N/A	1/1/2023	Senate Rules Committee	Public
DOUGLAS HENDRICKSON	1/26/2021	N/A	1/1/2025	Senate Rules Committee	Public
ANNMARIA DE MARS	4/14/2022	N/A	1/1/2026	Governor	Public
STEPHEN C. GRUWELL	1/14/2023	N/A	1/1/2025	Governor	Public
RONALD FIORE	3/13/2023	N/A	1/1/2026	Governor	Public
SCOTT WETCH	3/15/2023	N/A	1/1/2027	Senate Rules Committee	Public

2. In the past four years, was the board unable to hold any meetings due to lack of quorum? If so, please describe. Why? When? How did it affect operations? *Yes, the meeting scheduled for February 24, 2020, in Anaheim, CA was cancelled due to a lack of quorum. The cancellation of the meeting did not affect the operation of the Commission, the agenzized items were placed on the next calendared meeting.*

3. Describe any major changes to the board since the last Sunset Review, including, but not limited to:

- Internal changes (i.e., reorganization, relocation, change in leadership, strategic planning)
The Commission began working on the new Strategic Plan in September 2023.

The Governor appointed four public members to the Commission – Dr. Vernon Williams, AnnMaria De Mars, Stephen C. Gruwell and Ronald Fiore. The Senate Rules Committee appointed three new public members - Michael Hardeman, Douglas Hendrickson, and Scott Wetch. The Speaker of the Assembly appointed Peter Villegas to the Commission.

The Commission hired a new Assistant Executive Officer in October of 2022.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, four office staff members were transferred to other areas within the Department of Consumer Affairs as the Commission had an 87% decline in revenue. Those employees that transferred to other areas were not brought back as they found employment else. The Commission was able to start hiring staff in 2022 but is still operating with vacancies.

- All legislation sponsored by the board and affecting the board since the last sunset review.
AB1136, AB1703, AB1813
- All regulation changes approved by the board since the last sunset review. Include the status of each regulatory change approved by the board.

Pension – Sections 401 – 409. This regulation change will remove the break in service from section 402 that unfairly penalizes boxers who chose to take time off from the sport for medical or personal reasons. Increasing the contributions on tickets sold and increasing the maximum contribution per event in section 403 will, over time, add to the boxers pension thus making the

pension distribution increase. Adding additional funding sources to the boxers pension plan will also increase pension distributions over time. Changes to section 408(b)(8) will ensure that the Plan Administrator is sending out pension notifications to boxers who have vested and are due their distribution.

Dehydration & Rehydration – Sections 299. *This regulation change is necessary to have an immediate effect in providing a safe and fair competition during a bout. It will help to prevent athletes from using severe dehydration as a method to make the contracted bout weight. The regulation change will allow the CSAC Executive Officer to cancel any bout where a fighter gains more than 15% of their body weight back. This regulation will also hold the licensees making the fights accountable to ensure that they are offering fights to contestants in the appropriate weight class.*

4. Describe any major studies conducted by the board (cf. Section 12, Attachment C).

The Commission studied the effect of dehydration and quick rehydration on health and performance of athletes.

5. List the status of all national associations to which the board belongs.

The Commission belongs to the Association of Boxing Commissions and the Association of Ringside Physicians.

- Does the board's membership include voting privileges?

Yes

- List committees, workshops, working groups, task forces, etc., on which the board participates.

As part of the Association of Boxing Commissions, the Executive Officer of the Commission serves as Chair of the Medical Committee, Member of the Governmental Affairs Committee, Chair of the Boxing Registry Committee, Chair of the Mixed Martial Arts Training Committee, Chair of the Mixed Martial Arts Rules Committee, Co-Chair of the Boxing Rules Committee, Chair of the Boxing Officials Training Committee, and member of the Fighters Committee.

The Chair of the Commission's Medical Advisory Committee is an emeritus member of the Association of Ringside Physicians.

- How many meetings did board representative(s) attend? When and where?

The Executive Officer met via teleconference over 30 times with various committees to discuss policy changes/proposals.

The Executive Officer attended the Association of Boxing Commissions' Annual Conference in 2019, 2022, and 2023.

The Executive Officer attended the North American Boxing Federation's Annual Conference in 2022.

The Chairman, Peter Villegas, attended the North American Boxing Federation's Annual Conference in 2022 and Association of Boxing Commissions' Annual Conference in 2023.

- If the board is using a national exam, how is the board involved in its development, scoring, analysis, and administration?

**Section 2 –
Fiscal and Staff
Fiscal Issues**

6. Is the board’s fund continuously appropriated? If yes, please cite the statute outlining this continuous appropriation.

No

7. Describe the board’s current reserve level, spending, and if a statutory reserve level exists.

The Commission’s current fund balance is approximately \$705,000 which represents approximately 4 months of reserve. This is a significant decrease since the last Sunset review. The Commission is exploring other avenues to increase funding to help ensure the Commission is in good fiscal health to meet the forecasted budget.

8. Describe if/when a deficit is projected to occur and if/when a fee increases or reduction is anticipated. Describe the fee changes (increases or decreases) anticipated by the board.

Since the last Sunset Review, the Civil Service Union Contract has authorized several cost-of-living increases, as well as increased costs to basic operations. The cost of Government is increasing. Since the Commission does not receive but a small percentage of its revenue from license types, we are not asking for a license fee increase. The Commission suggests to the legislature that the increase in the TV tax cap from \$35,000 to \$45,000 is appropriate.

Table 2. Fund Condition						
(Dollars in Thousands)	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25
Beginning Balance	1741	1467	714	343	647	705
Revenues and Transfers	1830	894	1893	2498	2094	2092
Total Revenue	\$3571	\$2361	\$2607	\$2841	\$2741	\$2797
Budget Authority	1797	1774	1614	2218	1925	1983
Expenditures	1938	1626	2215	2194	2036	2094
Loans to General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accrued Interest, Loans to General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loans Repaid From General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fund Balance	\$1633	\$735	\$343	\$647	\$705	\$703
Months in Reserve	12.1	4.0	1.9	3.8	4.0	4.0

9. Describe the history of general fund loans. When were the loans made? When have payments been made to the board? Has interest been paid? What is the remaining balance?

Not Applicable.

10. Describe the amounts and percentages of expenditures by program component. Use *Table 3. Expenditures by Program Component* to provide a breakdown of the expenditures by the board in each program area. Expenditures by each component (except for pro rata) should be broken out by personnel expenditures and other expenditures.

Table 3. Expenditures by Program Component (list dollars in thousands)								
	FY 2019/20		FY 2020/21		FY 2021/22		FY 2022/23	
	Personnel Services	OE&E	Personnel Services	OE&E	Personnel Services	OE&E	Personnel Services	OE&E
Enforcement	421	186	344	83	376	271	417	236
Examination	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Licensing	421	86	44	83	377	271	416	236
Administration *	346	43	297	42	335	136	369	118
DCA Pro Rata	0	287	0	303	0	304	0	246
Diversion (if applicable)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTALS	\$1188	\$602	\$985	\$511	\$1088	\$982	\$ 1202	\$836

*Administration includes costs for executive staff, board, administrative support, and fiscal services.

11. Describe the amount the board has contributed to the BreEZe program.

Not Applicable.

12. Describe license renewal cycles and history of fee changes in the last 10 years. Give the fee authority (Business and Professions Code and California Code of Regulations citation) for each fee charged by the board.

All licenses expire 12 months after issuance and are renewed for 12 months periods.

Table 4. Fee Schedule and Revenue (list revenue dollars in thousands)							
Fee	Current Fee Amount	Statutory Limit	FY 2019/20 Revenue	FY 2020/21 Revenue	FY 2021/22 Revenue	FY 2022/23 Revenue	% of Total Revenue
Gate Taxes (BPC 18824)	5% of Gate	\$100,000	898,943	72,276	800,989	1,260,977	45.5%
Television Taxes (BPC 18824)	5% of TV Revenue	\$35,000	626,247	571,000	671,734	954,020	42.4%
Professional (Club) Promoter (BPC 18804)	\$1,000	\$1000	34,000	23,000	41,000	45,000	2.1%
Professional Referee (BPC 18812)	\$150	\$150	8,300	4,500	5,250	5,250	0.3%
Professional Manager (BPC 18810)	\$150	\$150	15,300	18,000	10,200	11,100	0.8%
Second (BPC 18811)	\$50	\$50	70,850	24,400	83,500	100,750	4.2%
Timekeeper	\$50	\$50	750	450	550	600	0.0%

(BPC 18814)								
Professional Fighter (BPC 18809)	\$60	\$60	44,160	17,700	56,040	65,520	2.8%	
Professional Judge (BPC 18812)	\$150	\$150	11,850	6,750	7,800	10,050	0.5%	
Matchmaker (BPC 18806)	\$200	\$200	2,400	1,800	3,600	5,000	0.2%	
Professional Trainer	\$200	\$200	7,200	2,800	14,200	17,000	0.6%	
Federal ID Cards	\$20	\$20	7,260	2,880	8,080	8,760	0.4%	

13. Describe Budget Change Proposals (BCPs) submitted by the board in the past four fiscal years.

N/A

Table 5. Budget Change Proposals (BCPs)								
BCP ID #	Fiscal Year	Description of Purpose of BCP	Personnel Services				OE&E	
			# Staff Requested (include classification)	# Staff Approved (include classification)	\$ Requested	\$ Approved	\$ Requested	\$ Approved

Staffing Issues

14. Describe any board staffing issues/challenges, i.e., vacancy rates, efforts to reclassify positions, staff turnover, recruitment and retention efforts, succession planning.

The Commission transferred staff during the COVID-19 Pandemic in an effort to remain fiscally sound. Once the pandemic was over and the Commission was more fiscally sound, two full-time positions were reclassified and filled.

The Commission reclassified a vacant Office Technician position into an Associate Analyst position; the working title of the person holding this position is Assistant Chief Athletic Inspector. The Commission reclassified a vacant Associate Analyst position into a limited term full-time Staff Services Analyst. The Commission is seeing an increase in the number of events and hopes to make the limited term position permanent.

The Commission has been slowly restoring its staffing to pre-COVID levels to ensure that the operational needs of the Commission are being met. The Commission has two part-time vacancies.

15. Describe the board's staff development efforts and total spent annually on staff development (cf., Section 12, Attachment D).

Staff is encouraged, and in some cases directed, to attend the DCA's training classes which are included as part of the pro rata payment to DCA. Offered through DCA are training classes in the areas of analyst certification, career development, communications and customer service, personal development, conflict management skills, DCA leadership academy, enforcement,

**Section 3 –
Licensing Program**

16. What are the board's performance targets/expectations for its licensing² program? Is the board meeting those expectations? If not, what is the board doing to improve performance?

There is no backlog in application processing at the Commission. Once the application has been completed, fees paid, and required supporting documentation received the license is issued.

17. Describe any increase or decrease in the board's average time to process applications, administer exams and/or issue licenses. Have pending applications grown at a rate that exceeds completed applications? If so, what has been done by the board to address them? What are the performance barriers and what improvement plans are in place? What has the board done and what is the board going to do to address any performance issues, i.e., process efficiencies, regulations, BCP, legislation?

The Commission processes most athlete and seconds license applications very quickly with no more than a two-day delay. Promoter, manager, and matchmaker applications take longer because of the amount of information that is processed and the live scan requirement. The timely processing of licenses is performed adequately by the Commission.

18. How many licenses or registrations has the board denied over the past four years based on criminal history that is determined to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the profession, pursuant to BPC § 480? Please provide a breakdown of each instance of denial and the acts the board determined were substantially related. *N/A*

Table 6. Licensee Population					
		FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23
Fighter	Active ³	713	295	930	1,092
	Out of State				
	Out of Country				
	Delinquent/Expired				
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>				
	Inactive				
	Other ⁴				
Promoter (Includes Temporary)	Active ⁵	33	23	37	45
	Out of State				
	Out of Country				
	Delinquent/Expired				
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>				
	Inactive				

² The term "license" in this document includes a license certificate or registration.

³ Active status is defined as able to practice. This includes licensees that are renewed, current, and active.

⁴ Other is defined as a status type that does not allow practice in California, other than retired or inactive.

⁵ Active status is defined as able to practice. This includes licensees that are renewed, current, and active.

	Other ⁶				
Manager	Active ⁷	93	120	73	76
	Out of State				
	Out of Country				
	Delinquent/Expired				
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>				
	Inactive				
	Other ⁸				
Second	Active ⁹	1309	488	1,690	2,015
	Out of State				
	Out of Country				
	Delinquent/Expired				
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>				
	Inactive				
	Other ¹⁰				
Referee	Active	55	30	35	35
	Out of State				
	Out of Country				
	Delinquent/Expired				
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>				
	Inactive				
	Other				
Judge	Active	75	45	52	67
	Out of State				
	Out of Country				
	Delinquent/Expired				
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>				
	Inactive				
	Other				
Timekeeper	Active	17	9	11	12
	Out of State				
	Out of Country				
	Delinquent/Expired				
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>				
	Inactive				
	Other				
Matchmaker	Active	11	9	16	29
	Out of State				
	Out of Country				
	Delinquent/Expired				
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>				
	Inactive				
	Other				
Pro-Trainer	Active	32	14	72	91
	Out of State				
	Out of Country				
	Delinquent/Expired				

⁶ Other is defined as a status type that does not allow practice in California, other than retired or inactive.

⁷ Active status is defined as able to practice. This includes licensees that are renewed, current, and active.

⁸ Other is defined as a status type that does not allow practice in California, other than retired or inactive.

⁹ Active status is defined as able to practice. This includes licensees that are renewed, current, and active.

¹⁰ Other is defined as a status type that does not allow practice in California, other than retired or inactive.

	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>				
	Inactive				
	Other				

Note: 'Out of State' and 'Out of Country' are two mutually exclusive categories. A licensee should not be counted in both.

Table 7a. Licensing Data by Type

Application Type	Received	Approved /Issued	Closed	Pending Applications			Cycle Times			
				Total (Close of FY)	Complete (within Board control)*	Incomplete (outside Board control)*	Complete Apps	Incomplete Apps	combined, IF unable to separate out	
FY 2020/21	(Exam)			-	-	-	-	-	-	
	(License)	823	823	823	10	10	0	15 days	30 days	n/a
	(Renewal)	210	210	210	-	-	-	15 days	30 days	n/a
FY 2021/22	(Exam)									
	(License)	2698	2698	2698	15	15	0	15 days	30 days	n/a
	(Renewal)	203	203	203				15 days	30 days	n/a
FY 2022/23	(Exam)									
	(License)	3219	3219	3219	0	0	0	15 days	30 days	n/a
	(Renewal)	231	231	231				15 days	30 days	n/a

* Optional. List if tracked by the board.

Table 7b. License Denial

	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23
License Applications Denied (no hearing requested)	0	0	0
SOIs Filed			
Average Days to File SOI (from request for hearing to SOI filed)			
SOIs Declined			
SOIs Withdrawn			
SOIs Dismissed (license granted)			
License Issued with Probation / Probationary License Issued			
Average Days to Complete (from SOI filing to outcome)			

19. How does the board verify information provided by the applicant?
- What process does the board use to check prior criminal history information, prior disciplinary actions, or other unlawful acts of the applicant? Has the board denied any licenses over the last four years based on the applicant's failure to disclose information on the application, including failure to self-disclose criminal history? If so, how many times and for what types of crimes (please be specific)?

The Commission verifies applicants' criminal history information by requiring fingerprints to be submitted for Promoter, Manager, and Matchmaker license applications. The Commission has denied two licenses for failure to disclose criminal history. One was for violation of vehicle code 10851(a) – taking a vehicle without consent or vehicle theft – felony charge. The second license denial was for violation of penal code 12020(a) – possession, manufacturing, or selling dangerous weapons – felony charge that was reduced to misdemeanor.

- Does the board fingerprint all applicants?

No, the Commission fingerprints Promoters, Managers, and Matchmakers only.

c. Have all current licensees been fingerprinted? If not, explain.

All Promoters, Managers, and Matchmakers have been fingerprinted.

d. Is there a national databank relating to disciplinary actions? Does the board check the national databank prior to issuing a license? Renewing a license?

The Commission utilizes the National Registry, BoxRec.com, and ABC.MixedMartialArts.com for athlete suspensions prior to issuing a license.

e. Does the board require primary source documentation?

No

20. Describe the board's legal requirement and process for out-of-state and out-of-country applicants to obtain licensure.

The process for out of country applicants is the same as state residents.

21. Describe the board's process, if any, for considering military education, training, and experience for purposes of licensing or credentialing requirements, including college credit equivalency.

a. Does the board identify or track applicants who are veterans? If not, when does the board expect to be compliant with BPC § 114.5? *Yes.*

b. How many applicants offered military education, training or experience towards meeting licensing or credentialing requirements, and how many applicants had such education, training or experience accepted by the board? *N/A*

c. What regulatory changes has the board made to bring it into conformance with BPC § 35?

Experience obtained in boxing, martial arts or kickboxing, including participating in hand-to-hand combat classes in the military, is considered when approving matches.

d. How many licensees has the board waived fees or requirements for pursuant to BPC § 114.3, and what has the impact been on board revenues? *Zero*

e. How many applications has the board expedited pursuant to BPC § 115.5? *N/A*

22. Does the board send No Longer Interested notifications to DOJ on a regular and ongoing basis? Is this done electronically? Is there a backlog? If so, describe the extent and efforts to address the backlog.

The Commission has not submitted No Longer Interested notifications to DOJ because an applicant can renew or continue in the licensing process at any time; therefore, the Commission maintains an interest in receiving subsequent arrest notifications. The Commission's statutes do not designate an abandonment period for applications or expired licensees. It would be appropriate for the Commission to establish an abandoned/delinquent period to trigger submission of No Longer Interest notifications.

Examinations

Table 8. Examination Data¹¹

¹¹ This table includes all exams for all license types as well as the pass/fail rate. Include as many examination types as necessary to cover all exams for all license types.

California Examination (include multiple language) if any:				
	License Type	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Exam Title	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY 2019/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Fail %	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY 2020/21	Number of Candidates	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Pass %	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Fail %	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY 2021/22	Number of Candidates	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Pass %	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Fail %	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY 2022/23	Number of Candidates	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Pass %	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Fail %	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Date of Last OA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Name of OA Developer	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Target OA Date	N/A	N/A	N/A
National Examination (include multiple language) if any:				
	License Type	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Exam Title	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY 2019/20	Number of Candidates	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Pass %	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Fail %	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY 2020/21	Number of Candidates	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Pass %	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Fail %	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY 2021/22	Number of Candidates	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Pass %	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Fail %	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY 2022/23	Number of Candidates	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Pass %	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Overall Fail %	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Date of Last OA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Name of OA Developer	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Target OA Date	N/A	N/A	N/A

23. Describe the examinations required for licensure. Is a national examination used? Is a California specific examination required? Are examinations offered in a language other than English?
N/A

24. What are pass rates for first time vs. retakes in the past 4 fiscal years? (Refer to Table 8: Examination Data) Are pass rates collected for examinations offered in a language other than English? N/A

25. Is the board using computer-based testing? If so, for which tests? Describe how it works. Where is it available? How often are tests administered? *No*
26. Are there existing statutes that hinder the efficient and effective processing of applications and/or examinations? If so, please describe. *No*
27. When did the Board last conduct an occupational analysis that validated the requirement for a California-specific examination? When does the Board plan to revisit this issue? Has the Board identified any reason to update, revise, or eliminate its current California-specific examination? *N/A*

School approvals

28. Describe legal requirements regarding school approval. Who approves your schools? What role does BPPE have in approving schools? How does the board work with BPPE in the school approval process?

The Commission does not approve schools. Rather, the Association of Boxing Commissions, of which the Commission is a member, approves training programs. Also, the Commission and Executive Officer work together to develop inspector training courses.

29. How many schools are approved by the board? How often are approved schools reviewed? Can the board remove its approval of a school? *N/A*

30. What are the board's legal requirements regarding approval of international schools? *N/A*

Continuing Education/Competency Requirements

31. Describe the board's continuing education/competency requirements, if any. Describe any changes made by the board since the last review.

Inspectors and Officials receive some form of new training every 6 months. The Commission has been conducting quarterly Officials trainings via Zoom.

a. How does the board verify CE or other competency requirements? Has the Board worked with the Department to receive primary source verification of CE completion through the Department's cloud?

Certificate of completion along with a passing score.

b. Does the board conduct CE audits of licensees? Describe the board's policy on CE audits.

The Commission maintains a record of officials that have taken the training courses approved by the Commission and ensures that competent officials are assigned based partly upon continuing education attendance.

c. What are consequences for failing a CE audit?

Additional training may be recommended, and assignments may not be given.

d. How many CE audits were conducted in the past four fiscal years? How many fails? What is the percentage of CE failure? *N/A*

e. What is the board's CE course approval policy?

Association of Boxing Commission approved course or equivalent.

f. Who approves CE providers? Who approves CE courses? If the board approves them, what is the board application review process?

The Executive Officer approves CE courses on behalf of the Commission. The Association of Boxing Commissions in cooperation with the California State Athletic Commission (CSAC), or a course designed by the California State Athletic Commission.

g. How many applications for CE providers and CE courses were received? How many were approved?

All Association of Boxing Commission approved courses are acceptable as well as CSAC created or endorsed testing.

h. Does the board audit CE providers? If so, describe the board’s policy and process. *No*

i. Describe the board’s effort, if any, to review its CE policy for purpose of moving toward performance-based assessments of the licensee’s continuing competence.

The Commission continues to apply its process for evaluating licensed officials. That process is ongoing.

Table 8a. Continuing Education			
Type	Frequency of Renewal	Number of CE Hours Required Each Cycle	Percentage of Licensees Audited
n/a			
n/a			
n/a			

Section 4 – Enforcement Program

32. What are the board’s performance targets/expectations for its enforcement program? Is the board meeting those expectations? If not, what is the board doing to improve performance?

The amount of random drug testing performed in California decreased significantly during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Commission has been increasing the number of random drug tests performed in an effort to get back to pre-COVID-19 levels. Even with the decrease in drug testing, California is still a model for drug testing and enforcement standards for other Commissions.

33. Explain trends in enforcement data and the board’s efforts to address any increase in volume, timeframes, ratio of closure to pending cases, or other challenges. What are the performance barriers? What improvement plans are in place? What has the board done and what is the board going to do to address these issues, i.e., process efficiencies, regulations, BCP, legislation?

The Commission's enforcement is very different from the other Boards and Bureaus within DCA. The Commission's enforcement activities commonly involve athletes using prohibited substances and conduct that brings discredit to combative sports or the Commission. Enforcement activity also includes investigating unlicensed activity. However, there is currently no backlog in pending cases. The Commission closes enforcement cases within 30 days.

Table 9a. Enforcement Statistics			
	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23
COMPLAINTS			
Intake		2	4
Received			
Closed without Referral for Investigation			4
Referred to INV		2	
Pending (close of FY)			
Conviction / Arrest			
CONV Received			
CONV Closed Without Referral for Investigation			
CONV Referred to INV			
CONV Pending (close of FY)			
Source of Complaint ¹²			
Public			
Licensee/Professional Groups			
Governmental Agencies			
Internal			
Other			
Anonymous			
Average Time to Refer for Investigation (from receipt of complaint / conviction to referral for investigation)			
Average Time to Closure (from receipt of complaint / conviction to closure at intake)			
Average Time at Intake (from receipt of complaint / conviction to closure or referral for investigation)			
INVESTIGATION			
Desk Investigations		2	
Opened			
Closed		2	
Average days to close (from assignment to investigation closure)		30	
Pending (close of FY)			
Non-Sworn Investigation			
Opened			
Closed			
Average days to close (from assignment to investigation closure)			
Pending (close of FY)			
Sworn Investigation			
Opened			
Closed			
Average days to close (from assignment to investigation closure)			
Pending (close of FY)			
All investigations ¹³			

¹² Source of complaint refers to complaints and convictions received. The summation of intake and convictions should match the total of source of complaint.

¹³ The summation of desk, non-sworn, and sworn investigations should match the total of all investigations.

Opened			
Closed			
Average days for all investigation outcomes (from start investigation to investigation closure or referral for prosecution)			
Average days for investigation closures (from start investigation to investigation closure)			
Average days for investigation when referring for prosecution (from start investigation to referral for prosecution)			
Average days from receipt of complaint to investigation closure			
Pending (close of FY)			
CITATION AND FINE			
Citations Issued	4	48	34
Average Days to Complete (from complaint receipt / inspection conducted to citation issued)	10	30	30
Amount of Fines Assessed	\$31,200	\$60,960	\$24,579
Amount of Fines Reduced, Withdrawn, Dismissed			
Amount Collected	\$27,500	\$60,960	\$10,479
CRIMINAL ACTION			
Referred for Criminal Prosecution			
ACCUSATION			
Accusations Filed			
Accusations Declined			
Accusations Withdrawn			
Accusations Dismissed			
Average Days from Referral to Accusations Filed (from AG referral to Accusation filed)			
INTERIM ACTION			
ISO & TRO Issued			
PC 23 Orders Issued			
Other Suspension/Restriction Orders Issued			
Referred for Diversion			
Petition to Compel Examination Ordered			
DISCIPLINE			
AG Cases Initiated (cases referred to the AG in that year)			
AG Cases Pending Pre-Accusation (close of FY)			
AG Cases Pending Post-Accusation (close of FY)			
DISCIPLINARY OUTCOMES			
Revocation			
Surrender			
Suspension only			
Probation with Suspension			
Probation only			
Public Reprimand / Public Reproval / Public Letter of Reprimand			
Other			
DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS			
Proposed Decision			
Default Decision			
Stipulations			
Average Days to Complete After Accusation (from Accusation filed to imposing formal discipline)			

Average Days from Closure of Investigation to Imposing Formal Discipline			
Average Days to Impose Discipline (from complaint receipt to imposing formal discipline)			
PROBATION			
Probations Completed			
Probationers Pending (close of FY)			
Probationers Tolle			
Petitions to Revoke Probation / Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation Filed			
SUBSEQUENT DISCIPLINE¹⁴			
Probations Revoked			
Probationers License Surrendered			
Additional Probation Only			
Suspension Only Added			
Other Conditions Added Only			
Other Probation Outcome			
SUBSTANCE ABUSING LICENSEES			
Probationers Subject to Drug Testing			
Drug Tests Ordered			
Positive Drug Tests			
PETITIONS			
Petition for Termination or Modification Granted			
Petition for Termination or Modification Denied			
Petition for Reinstatement Granted			
Petition for Reinstatement Denied			
DIVERSION			
New Participants			
Successful Completions			
Participants (close of FY)			
Terminations			
Terminations for Public Threat			
Drug Tests Ordered			
Positive Drug Tests			

- Citations and Fines includes overweight fines issued a weigh-ins

¹⁴ Do not include these numbers in the Disciplinary Outcomes section above.

Table 10. Enforcement Aging						
	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	Cases Closed	Average %
Investigations (Average %)						
Closed Within:						
90 Days	6	4	2	9	21	
91 - 180 Days						
181 - 1 Year						
1 - 2 Years						
2 - 3 Years						
Over 3 Years						
Total Investigation Cases Closed						
Attorney General Cases (Average %)						
Closed Within:						
0 - 1 Year						
1 - 2 Years						
2 - 3 Years						
3 - 4 Years						
Over 4 Years						
Total Attorney General Cases Closed						

34. What do overall statistics show as to increases or decreases in disciplinary action since last review?

Disciplinary actions (suspension, overweight fines, denial of license, revocation) have remained consistent with market deviations. The Commission, as a regulatory and licensing body, is subject to market fluctuations. When more demand for combative sports exists, more enforcement is exercised.

35. How are cases prioritized? What is the board’s compliant prioritization policy? Is it different from DCA’s *Complaint Prioritization Guidelines for Health Care Agencies* (August 31, 2009)? If so, explain why.

Disciplinary actions are issued immediately or shortly after occurrence. Consequently, establishing or adhering to a complaint prioritization policy is not applicable at this time.

36. Are there mandatory reporting requirements? For example, requiring local officials or organizations, or other professionals to report violations, or for civil courts to report to the board actions taken against a licensee. Are there problems with the board receiving the required reports? If so, what could be done to correct the problems?

Executive Officer reports all results and suspensions to the appropriate databases. Additionally, the Commission delegates all amateur sports to four organizations: California Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Organization (CAMO) – Amateur Mixed Martial Arts, USA Boxing – Amateur Boxing, United States Fight League (USFL) – Youth Pankration, and International Kickboxing Federation (IKF) – Amateur Kickboxing. These organizations are responsible for reporting to the Commission all major injuries, medical and administrative suspensions, schedules of event, licensing fees, revenue and expense reports, and current year to date profit and loss statements.

a. What is the dollar threshold for settlement reports received by the board? *N/A*

- b. What is the average dollar amount of settlements reported to the board? *N/A*
37. Describe settlements the board, and Office of the Attorney General on behalf of the board, enter into with licensees. *N/A*
- a. What is the number of cases, pre-accusation, that the board settled for the past four years, compared to the number that resulted in a hearing?
 - b. What is the number of cases, post-accusation, that the board settled for the past four years, compared to the number that resulted in a hearing?
 - c. What is the overall percentage of cases for the past four years that have been settled rather than resulted in a hearing?
38. Does the board operate with a statute of limitations? If so, please describe and provide citation. If so, how many cases have been lost due to statute of limitations? If not, what is the board's policy on statute of limitations?

This is not applicable to the Commission other than to point out the length of the license type expires one year from the date of issue. Most ABC member Commissions uphold each other's medical or disciplinary suspensions even after the license expires. This does not preclude the athlete from competing in a rogue jurisdiction or out of the country.

39. Describe the board's efforts to address unlicensed activity and the underground economy.

The Commission has a link on the website for reporting unlicensed activity. The Commission staff will investigate when a report is made. Primarily, licensed stakeholders will notify the Commission of unlicensed activity. This is frequent and is the Commission's best tool to address underground activity. Staff, when possible, scan websites, social media, and blogs to locate illegal activity, but this is not always reliable. When unlicensed activity does come to our attention, the Commission staff coordinate with the DCA investigations unit and/or local law enforcement to implement a variety of enforcement tools available to the Commission. Sending inspectors to stop events as well as issuing Cease and Desist orders are a common method to deter illegal activity. The Commission also utilizes social media (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) to communicate to the public the requirements for licensure in California.

Cite and Fine

40. Discuss the extent to which the board has used cite and fine authority. Discuss any changes from last review and describe the last time regulations were updated and any changes that were made. Has the board increased its maximum fines to the \$5,000 statutory limit?

The Commission issues citations to licensees for violations of the State Boxing Act. Effective January 1, 2016, through SB 469, the Commission received authority to assess additional fines of up to 40 percent of an athlete's total purse for violations of Section 18649 related to the use of prohibited substances. Having this authority has provided a greater level of deterrence among the higher paid athletes.

41. How is cite and fine used? What types of violations are the basis for citation and fine?

Fines are used as a penalty and are usually accompanied by a suspension or order to correct conduct. They are commonly issued against licensed athletes for using prohibited substances and conduct that brings discredit to combative sports or to the Commission.

42. How many informal office conferences, Disciplinary Review Committees reviews and/or Administrative Procedure Act appeals of a citation or fine in the last 4 fiscal years?

Due to the extraordinary nature of Boxing as a sport and profession, the California State Athletic Commission (CSAC) is not subject to the provisions of the APA, as violations by CSAC licensees necessarily need to be handled immediately to protect the public welfare or is in the best interest of combat sports. However, in fulfilling the regulatory mandate, the Commission issues cease and desist orders for illegal events, suspensions, and revocations for violations of the laws and statutes governing combat sports and conducts arbitrations for its licensees when a dispute arises from either a boxer-manager or boxer-promoter agreement. The Commission has sole authority over those proceedings.

43. What are the five most common violations for which citations are issued?

1. *Overweight fines*
2. *Administration or Use of Prohibited Substances, Prohibited Methods*
3. *Discredit to Boxing*
4. *Failure to Report and/or Pay event fees/taxes.*
5. *Contract Violations (Management, Promotional, or Bout)*

44. What is average fine pre- and post- appeal?

Fine amounts are rarely reduced and vary greatly from \$100.00 to \$2,500.00. Since becoming effective, the Commission has utilized its authority to fine up to 40 percent of the athlete's purse in the maximum fine the Commission has ordered was \$205,000.

45. Describe the board's use of Franchise Tax Board intercepts to collect outstanding fines.

This has not been utilized for fines, but it is used to collect money owed from dishonored checks.

Cost Recovery and Restitution

46. Describe the board's efforts to obtain cost recovery. Discuss any changes from the last review.

Since January 1, 2016, the Commission has the authority to seek cost recovery related to arbitration proceedings from the parties' subject to the proceedings. However, the Commission has not yet utilized its authority.

47. How many and how much is ordered by the board for revocations, surrenders and probationers? How much do you believe is uncollectable? Explain. *N/A*

48. Are there cases for which the board does not seek cost recovery? Why?

Yes, the Commission has the authority to seek cost recovery related to arbitration proceedings from the parties' subject to the proceedings. The Commission requested this authority to deter people from abusing the arbitration protections and frivolous requests.

49. Describe the board's use of Franchise Tax Board intercepts to collect cost recovery. *N/A*

50. Describe the board’s efforts to obtain restitution for individual consumers, any formal or informal board restitution policy, and the types of restitution that the board attempts to collect, i.e., monetary, services, etc. Describe the situation in which the board may seek restitution from the licensee to a harmed consumer. *N/A*

Table 11. Cost Recovery¹⁵ (list dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23
Total Enforcement Expenditures				
Potential Cases for Recovery *				
Cases Recovery Ordered				
Amount of Cost Recovery Ordered				
Amount Collected				
* “Potential Cases for Recovery” are those cases in which disciplinary action has been taken based on violation of the license practice act.				

Table 12. Restitution (list dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23
Amount Ordered				
Amount Collected				

¹⁵ Cost recovery may include information from prior fiscal years.

Section 5 – Public Information Policies

51. How does the board use the internet to keep the public informed of board activities? Does the board post board-meeting materials online? When are they posted? How long do they remain on the board's website? When are draft-meeting minutes posted online? When does the board post final meeting minutes? How long do meeting minutes remain available online?

The Commission posts meeting notices, agendas, and materials, training announcements, and interesting topics affecting the industry on its website. The meeting agendas are posted at least 10 days prior to the meeting date. Meeting materials are typically available one week before the meeting. Final minutes are posted on the website upon Commission approval and historically have remained on the web site for several years.

52. Does the board webcast its meetings? What is the board's plan to webcast future board and committee meetings? How long do webcast meetings remain available online?

Yes, the Commission webcasts its meetings. However, since there are various factors that could affect the internet or end-user connections to this service, the availability and quality of this service is not guaranteed. If available, webcasts remain on DCA's web site for several years under the web case archives.

53. Does the board establish an annual meeting calendar, and post it on the board's web site?

Yes, the Commission does establish an annual meeting calendar. However, this is not posted on our website. The calendar is available in the meeting materials online for the first meeting of the year.

54. Is the board's complaint disclosure policy consistent with DCA's *Recommended Minimum Standards for Consumer Complaint Disclosure*? Does the board post accusations and disciplinary actions consistent with DCA's *Web Site Posting of Accusations and Disciplinary Actions* (May 21, 2010)? *Yes*

55. What information does the board provide to the public regarding its licensees (i.e., education completed, awards, certificates, certification, specialty areas, disciplinary action, etc.)?

The Commission provides event results on its website which indicates the winner/loser of every bout in California. Additionally, a list of all licensed Seconds and Professional Trainers, approved Ringside Physicians (RPs), approved ticket printers, and approved Boxing gloves for competition are available on the Commission's website.

56. What methods are used by the board to provide consumer outreach and education?

In addition to the Public Comment section, every Commission meeting invites stakeholder testimony to identify actions that may lead to greater opportunities for licensees to participate in major professional boxing contests. Additionally, the Commission has a Facebook, Instagram and X page which is updated periodically. The Commission also issues press releases on points of interest to the public such as the Boxer's Pension Fund, MMA Retirement Plan, dehydration and weight cutting advisories, and rule updates. Commission subcommittees have proven to be effective tools to further engage relevant issues and stakeholders.

Section 6 –

Online Practice Issues

57. Discuss the prevalence of online practice and whether there are issues with unlicensed activity. How does the board regulate online practice? Does the board have any plans to regulate internet business practices or believe there is a need to do so? *N/A*

Section 7 – Workforce Development and Job Creation

58. What actions has the board taken in terms of workforce development?

The Commission held a Stakeholders meeting in October of 2019 to address the issues related to gender equity and present the findings of the Gender Equity Subcommittee. The Commission holds quarterly Zoom Officials trainings to enhance the skills and knowledge of its licensed officials and to build up the next generation of officials. Management encourages all its staff to attend workshops and trainings offered by SOLID to enhance their skills/knowledge.

59. Describe any assessment the board has conducted on the impact of licensing delays.

The Commission does not have any licensing delays.

60. Describe the board's efforts to work with schools to inform potential licensees of the licensing requirements and licensing process.

The Commission has conducted outreach to California gyms and licensees regarding dehydration and weight cutting dangers, C3 Logix testing, Boxers Pension Plan, MMA Retirement Plan and other licensing requirements.

61. Describe any barriers to licensure and/or employment the board believes exist.

The Commission does not believe there are any barriers to licensure.

62. Provide any workforce development data collected by the board, such as:

- a. Workforce shortages *N/A*
- b. Successful training programs. *N/A*

63. What efforts or initiatives has the board undertaken that would help reduce or eliminate inequities experienced by licensees or applicants from vulnerable communities, including low- and moderate-income communities, communities of color, and other marginalized communities, or that would seek to protect those communities from harm by licensees?

The Commission has collaborated with UCLA to study and collect demographic data to identify the number of boxers who participated in California boxing contests from the Latino community. This is an ongoing collaboration, and the Commission hopes to expand the demographic data collected across all communities.

Section 8 – Current Issues

64. What is the status of the board's implementation of the Uniform Standards for Substance Abusing Licensees?

The Uniform Standards do not apply. However, all licensed athletes are required to submit to random drug testing (or regular drug testing if a prior test was failed). Athletes who are found to have used a prohibited substance are simply not permitted to participate in a California regulated combat sport again until their suspension period has ended and fine paid. The Commission contracts with the Sports Medicine Research & Testing Laboratory (SMRTL) in Salt Lake City, and utilizes the WADA banned substance list to ensure the highest level of integrity for regulated combat sports.

65. What is the status of the board's implementation of the Consumer Protection Enforcement Initiative (CPEI) regulations? *N/A*

66. Describe how the board is participating in development of BreEZe and any other secondary IT issues affecting the board.

a. Is the board utilizing BreEZe? What Release was the board included in? What is the status of the board's change requests? *N/A*

b. If the board is not utilizing BreEZe, what is the board's plan for future IT needs? What discussions has the board had with DCA about IT needs and options? What is the board's understanding of Release 3 boards? Is the board currently using a bridge or workaround system?

The Commission, in conjunction with DCA, has developed a Business Modernization Plan to effectively facilitate the analysis, approval, and potential transition to a new licensing and enforcement platform. The Plan outlines our approach to identifying the Commission's specific business needs, determining cost effective options, and proposes initial schedules. The Plan also considers the impacts and requirements of the Project Approval Lifecycle (PAL), the project approval process required by the California Department of Technology. The Commission will perform a mandated cost benefit analysis or determine the cost effectiveness of a new platform.

The Commission began meeting with DCA project staff in May 2017. Initial meetings included general education and discussion about the business modernization effort and its staff and time demands. The Commission inventoried their business processes in August 2017 and finalized the mapping process in early 2020. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the Commission has had to pause its efforts for creating an online licensing database. The Commission, in conjunction with DCA, has now restarted its efforts to create an online licensing system for its most populist licensing type.

Section 9 – Board Actions and Responses to COVID-19.

67. In response to COVID-19, did the board take any steps or implement any policies regarding licensees or consumers? Has the board implemented any statutory revisions, updates or changes

that were necessary to address the COVID-19 Pandemic? Any additional changes needed to address a future State of Emergency Declaration.

On May 29, 2020 and June 16, 2020, the Commission determined the adoption of a regulation addressing the emergency created by the COVID-19 pandemic was necessary and approved the text of the proposed emergency language, as amended, to add Section 299.5 to Article 6 of Chapter 1 of Division 2 of Title 4 of the California Code of Regulations entitled Procedures to Hold Combative Sporting Events When an Infectious Disease Causes a State of Emergency.

The Commission submitted the emergency regulatory package to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review and approval on July 2, 2020. On July 22, 2020, the Office of Administrative Law approved the Commission's emergency regulations. The regulation established procedures to hold combative sporting events during the state of emergency stemming from the infectious disease Novel Corona Virus 19 (COVID-19), declared by the State of California as a public health emergency. This emergency regulation expired May 22, 2021. The Office of Administrative Law approved the Commission's readoption of the emergency regulations on May 27, 2021, which gave the Commission authorization to operate under these regulations at least through August 2021.

With the approval of the Commission's emergency regulations, the Commission was able to run events in what was called "the bubble". Events held in "the bubble" had no audience members present and all individuals present in "the bubble" were COVID tested upon arrival to the event to ensure all individuals present were negative for the Novel Corona Virus 19.

Licensees who did not utilize their license during the COVID-19 shutdown of events in California were granted a one-year extension. Additionally, all Fighter-Manager contracts that were on file with the Commission were extended for four months to account for the shutdown of combative sporting events in California.

Section 10 – Board Action and Response to Prior Sunset Issues

Include the following:

1. Background information concerning the issue as it pertains to the board.
2. Short discussion of recommendations made by the Committees during prior sunset review.
3. What action the board took in response to the recommendation or findings made under prior sunset review.
4. Any recommendations the board has for dealing with the issue, if appropriate.

Issue #1: Volatile Revenues. What steps, if any are available to ensure the Commission has consistent and predictable revenue streams?

Through AB1703, the Commission was able to increase the statutory cap on the 5% box office gate fee from \$100,000 to \$200,000. This increase will begin January 1, 2024. The Commission has been exploring approving other forms of combat sports to increase revenue.

The Commission does need some flexibility in the spending authority by increasing the appropriation.

Issue #2: Chief Athletic Inspector. Should the Commission's Chief Athletic Inspector and Assistant CI positions be reauthorized in statute?

The Commission hired a Chief Athletic Inspector in 2020 and an Assistant Chief Athletic Inspector in 2022.

Issue #3: Auditor Recommendations: Neurological Examination Ticket Assessments. Are there any option for accelerating the process for establishing the Commission's fee assessment on tickets for the Neurological Examination Account?

In 2021, the Commission implemented regulations that increased the neurological fee assessment to one quarter of one percent of the gross ticket sales per event.

Issue #4: Outdated Technology Systems. What is the status of the Commission's upgrade to a new license tracking system?

The Commission began meeting with DCA project staff in May 2017. Initial meetings included general education and discussion about the business modernization effort and its staff and time demands. The Commission inventoried their business processes in August 2017 and finalized the mapping process in early 2020. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the Commission has had to pause its efforts for creating an online licensing database. The Commission, in conjunction with DCA, has now restarted its efforts to create an online licensing system for its most populist licensing type.

Issue #5: Transgender Licensure Does the Commission have plans for reducing stigma and lack of understanding as to transgender and other LGBTQ issues among the combat sport community and the public in general?

The Commission has worked with the ABC Medical Committee to create transgender athlete testing requirements. The Executive Officer has spoken at the ABC Conference about transgender athletes in combative sports.

Issue #6: Therapeutic Use of Prohibited Substances. Is the Commission continuing to look into research related to abuse of performance enhancing substances in comparison to use for therapeutic purposes?

Exploring the research on the abuse of performance-enhancing substances and their therapeutic uses is an important and nuanced area. Both aspects involve substances that can have significant impacts on the human body, and the line between abuse and therapeutic use can sometimes be blurry. The approach to this is done by research with a critical lens, considering both the potential benefits and risks associated with the use of these substances. Additionally, staying updated on the latest research findings and advancements in the field will contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the topic. The Commission incorporates by reference the WADA Prohibited list which is updated by WADA annually. In 2019, the Commission approved updated disciplinary guidelines for drug testing.

Issue #7: Neurological Examinations. How is the new C3 Logix system working so far, and what are the options for using the data collected?

The Commission completed almost 3,000 baseline and/or follow-up tests on 2,655 athletes. The Commission conducts these C3 Logix tests at pre-licensing and weigh-ins. The test data is periodically reviewed to compare an athlete's baseline test to their follow-up test to see if any significant changes have occurred. The Commission is currently working with NeuroLogix

Technologies to share its C3 Logix data with other groups who utilize C3 Logix to focus on analyzing the data collected.

Issue #8: Research Partnerships and Data Analysis: Does the Commission need additional authority to collect data and form partnerships with academic research programs?

The Commission has the authority to share collected data and has utilized this authority to share its weight cutting data with Harvard University. The Commission is currently working with NeuroLogix Technologies to share its C3 Logix data with other groups who utilize C3 Logix to focus on analyzing the data collected.

Issue #9: Pension Reform: What is the Commission's plan for reforming and expanding its boxing pension program?

AB1136 created a Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) Retirement Plan similar to the Boxers Pension Plan which now allows MMA athletes to vest into a retirement plan. The Commission worked with the Division of Investigation, the Mexican Consulate, and a non-profit investigation service to locate late claimants of the boxers pension plan. The Commission now requires the plan administrator to send out notices and pension statements to boxers who are vested in the plan. The Commission is currently working on updating the pension regulations to remove the break in service, increase the funding/contributions, and clean up the language.

Issue #10: Youth Pankration Marketing. What is the Commission's solution to ensuring that its delegated entities maintain the distinction between amateur MMA and youth pankration?

Youth pankration bouts in California require headgear to be worn during competition, this is one of the most noticeable distinctions between amateur MMA and youth pankration. Delegated entities are required to provide reports to the Commission at each scheduled Commission meeting.

Issue #11: Unsanctioned Events. What are the Commission's options for actively regulating "smokers", rather than passively waiting for complaints, or hearing about them via social media or blogs?

The Commission largely relies on complaints regarding "smokers" or illegal events due to its limited staff and funding.

Issue #12: Out-of-Competition Use of Prohibited Substances. If necessary, is there a way to strengthen the ability to deter and detect the use of prohibited substance use that may avoid detection or provide unfair advantages in long-term?

The Commission contracts with the Sports Medicine Research & Testing Laboratory (SMRTL) in Salt Lake City, and utilizes the WADA banned substance list to ensure the highest level of integrity for regulated combat sports. SMRTL is a WADA accredited laboratory whose laboratory's capabilities include immunoassay, gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GC/MS), liquid chromatography mass spectrometry (LC/MS), isotope ratio mass spectrometry (IRMS), gel electrophoresis, and bio and chemiluminescence.

Issue #13: Technical Cleanup

This is ongoing.

Issue #14: Should the licensing and regulation of martial arts contests continue to be regulated and, if so, by the current membership?

The Commission believes the Legislature should authorize the Commission to continue to regulate combat sports in California.

Section 11 – New Issues

This is the opportunity for the board to inform the Committees of solutions to issues identified by the board and by the Committees. Provide a short discussion of each of the outstanding issues, and the board's recommendation for action that could be taken by the board, by DCA or by the Legislature to resolve these issues (i.e., policy direction, budget changes, legislative changes) for each of the following:

1. Issues raised under prior Sunset Review that have not been addressed.
2. New issues identified by the board in this report.
3. New issues not previously discussed in this report.
 - 1) The Commission requests an increase of the cap for the Retired Boxers Pension Fund to increase from the \$4,600 in regulation to at least \$10,000 in statute.
 - 2) The Commission requests the 88 cents per ticket assessment for the Retired Boxers Pension Fund be increased to \$1.00 to match the MMA Retirement benefit assessment.
 - 3) The Commission would like to see many of the regulations in the Title 4 codified.
 - 4) The Commission requests the explicit authority, but not the requirement, to engage in financial literacy education for athletes.
 - 5) The Commission requests an increase in the minimum purse of \$100.00 per round in regulation be increased to \$200.00 per statute.
 - 6) The Commission needs further flexibility in allowing athletes who have previously had Hepatitis C, but have received treatment and are no longer contagious, be allowed to compete as long as they are signed off by a physician specializing in blood disease and approved by the CSAC ringside physician.
 - 7) The Commission requests an increase in the pension split noticed in Business and Professions Code 18824 from \$70,000 to \$140,000.
 - 8) The Commission needs clarification and authority for the Commission appointed ringside physician to be able to direct the paramedics and ambulance to transport an injured fighter to a hospital to receive emergency care without delay.
4. New issues raised by the Committees.

Section 12– Attachments

Please provide the following attachments:

- A. Board's administrative manual.

- B. Current organizational chart showing relationship of committees to the board and membership of each committee (cf., Section 1, Question 1).
- C. Major studies, if any (cf., Section 1, Question 4).
- D. Year-end organization charts for last four fiscal years. Each chart should include number of staff by classifications assigned to each major program area (licensing, enforcement, administration, etc.) (cf., Section 2, Question 15).
- E. Provide each quarterly and annual performance measure report for the board as published on the DCA website
- F. Provide results for each question in the board's customer satisfaction survey broken down by fiscal year. Discuss the results of the customer satisfaction surveys.