



# Contra Costa County Bar Association FAQ

## 1. What is the CCCBA PRO?

CCCBA PRO is the Contra Costa County Bar Association Professional Referral Organization. PRO is the Bar Association's new business referral networking group.

## 2. How do I join?

Joining PRO is simple. If you are a CCCBA member or affiliate member, you are already eligible to apply. If you are not a member, now is a great time to join the CCCBA and you will then be provided with a separate PRO application.

## 3. Can anyone join?

Yes, and no. While PRO is open to all CCCBA members, both attorneys and non-attorneys, each PRO group will be limited to one participant in any particular category who has at least 7 years' experience. So, if you are a family law attorney, you will be the only one in your PRO group, one financial planner, one CPA, etc. Each group can define classifications to narrow them with the participant's approval so that there could be sub-specializations allowing a couple different family law attorneys in a group. As we have more requests from similar practice areas, we will expand to more groups.

The PRO management committee, which currently consists of Theresa Hurley, Diane Camacho, Mika Domingo, David Pearson, Michael Pierson, and James Wu will review membership applications for approval. So long as the member is in good standing with all professional boards (Bar, CPA, DRE, etc.) and has no history of actions against their professional license(s), the member is eligible to participate and their application will be forwarded to the groups who will then decide whether to admit the individual.

## 4. What does it cost?

For 2022, the cost to become a PRO member is \$300 in addition to your CCCBA membership fee.

## 5. Why join?

CCCBA's mission statement is to "Empower our members to deliver outstanding legal service to our community" and our vision is that "The CCCBA empowers our members to build thriving legal practices that deliver outstanding legal service to our community. We do this through educating our members, fostering fellowship among members of the bar, building strong relationships with the court and connecting the community with the legal assistance it needs." The CCCBA feels that networking referral groups further the CCCBA's mission and are of tremendous benefit to our members to assist them in building their practices and better serving their communities. We purposely set the price at \$300 to eliminate the barrier of cost to participation. The goal is to exchange referrals, and also to create a stronger sense of community within each group.

## 6. How will the groups run?

The groups meet monthly for 60 – 90 minutes. Each group will have a facilitator to run the group and the facilitator can seek additional assistance to run the group. The CCCBA and the PRO management committee will assist each group as needed but each group will seek out new members and additional classifications that the group feels will benefit its members. The groups can also review applications for the specific group for conflicts and to ensure a proper fit for the applicant.

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## **7. What happens during a meeting?**

The members of the group will all have a chance to introduce themselves and their practice during each meeting. We envision that each meeting might include longer presentations from 2 members so that members have an opportunity to learn about each other from more than just a brief introduction. During each meeting, members will also have the opportunity to thank other members for referrals received. Typically, the PRO meetings will NOT include MCLE presentations as we are hopeful that a large number of non-attorneys will participate.

## **8. What obligations will a PRO member have?**

Members of PRO will be expected to attend each monthly meeting and participate in the discussions. We understand that life happens, but continual lack of attendance will result in dismissal from PRO without a refund. There is no requirement on the number of referrals given/received, but hopefully members will consider their fellow PRO members when giving referrals in appropriate matters. Members will also be expected to have one or two meetings per month with other members of their respective PRO group outside of the regular meeting. Each group will track attendance, outside meetings, and referrals within their group and will consider these statistics upon annual renewal requests. Failure to actively participate can result in dismissal from the group or the group not allowing a participant's renewal. We want actively engaged members.

For questions or more information, please contact Theresa Hurley at [thurley@cccba.org](mailto:thurley@cccba.org).

[Applications are available here.](#)