

Glossary of Definitions



ALJ	Administrative Law Judge—a judge from OAH who presides over license denial and discipline cases (the trier of fact) and makes a Proposed Decision to the board that includes findings of fact, conclusions of law, and a recommended penalty.
APA	Administrative Procedure Act—the law that sets out the procedure for license denial and license discipline, to meet constitutional requirements for due process of law.
Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act	Name of the law that requires public meetings and distribution of meeting notices and agendas.
Conflict of Interest Laws	Refers to a number of laws which relate to a person's personal interest which conflicts with the public interest.
DAG	Deputy Attorney General—an attorney from the Office of the Attorney General who prosecutes license denial and discipline cases.
Gross negligence	An extreme departure from the standard of practice.
Incompetence	Lack of knowledge or skills in discharging professional duties.
Negligence	A departure from the standard of practice.
OAH	Office of Administrative Hearings—the state agency that provides neutral (unaffiliated with either party) judges to preside over administrative cases.
OAL	Office of Administrative Law—the state agency that reviews regulation changes for compliance with the process and standards set out in law and either approves or disapproves those regulation changes.
Petition for Writ	The name for the type of appeal filed in Superior

Of Mandate	Court that a licensee files when the licensee wishes to challenge a license disciplinary decision.
Pro Rata Share	Usually, a board's share of costs for certain services, usually determined by a proportional, mathematical formula.
Regulation	A standard that implements, interprets or makes specific a statute enacted by a state agency. It is enforceable the same way as a statute.
Stipulation	A form of plea bargaining in which a disciplinary case is settled by negotiated agreement prior to a hearing.
Statute	A law passed by the Legislature.
TRO	Temporary Restraining Order—an order issued by a Superior Court judge to immediately halt practice.