

# SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

FOR COURT USE ONLY  
(SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

## NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

LEGALMATCH.COM, a corporation; and DOES 1-10, inclusive

## YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. **AVISO!** Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO:** Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 o más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is:

(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):

San Francisco County Superior Court, 400 McAllister Street, San Francisco CA 94102

CASE NUMBER: (Número del Caso)

**CGC-20-584278**

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

Allison V. Lippa, The State Bar of California, 180 Howard Street, San Francisco CA 94105; 415 538-2833

DATE:

(Fecha)

**MAY 04 2020**

Clerk, by

(Secretario)

Deputy

(Adjunto)

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)

(Para prueba de entrega de esta citación use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010).)

(SEAL)



NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

1. ☐ as an individual defendant.
2. ☐ as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):
3. ☒ on behalf of (specify): Defendant LegalMatch.com  
under: ☐ CCP 416.10 (corporation) ☐ CCP 416.60 (minor)  
☐ CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) ☐ CCP 416.70 (conservatee)  
☐ CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) ☐ CCP 416.90 (authorized person)  
☐ other (specify):
4. ☐ by personal delivery on (date)

**JACQUELINE LAPREVOTTE**

**DEPUTY CLERK**

1 VANESSA L. HOLTON (111613)  
2 ROBERT G. RETANA (148677)  
3 ALISON V. LIPPA (160807)  
4 THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA  
5 OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
6 180 Howard Street  
7 San Francisco, CA 94105-1639  
8 Telephone: (415) 538-2333  
9 Fax: (415) 538-2321  
10 alison.lippa@calbar.ca.gov

11 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
12 THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

13 Exempt from Filing Fees Pursuant to  
14 Government Code Section 6103

15 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
16 COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

17 THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA,

18 Plaintiff,

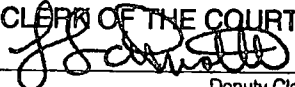
19 v.

20 LEGALMATCH.COM, a corporation; and  
21 DOES 1-10, inclusive,

22 Defendants.

**FILED**  
Superior Court of California  
County of San Francisco

MAY 04 2020

CLERK OF THE COURT  
BY:   
Deputy Clerk

Case **CGC-20-584278**

**COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF  
PURSUANT TO BUSINESS &  
PROFESSIONS CODE § 6155**

**BY FAX**

1 Plaintiff the State Bar of California ("State Bar" or "Plaintiff"), brings this suit and  
2 hereby alleges the following on information and belief:

3 **PARTIES AND VENUE**

4 1. The authority of the State Bar to bring this action is derived from the statutory law of  
5 California, specifically Business & Professions Code section 6155.

6 2. Defendant LEGALMATCH.COM ("LegalMatch" or "Defendant") is a California  
7 corporation with its headquarters and principal place of business located in California at 395  
8 Oyster Point Blvd, Suite 309, South San Francisco, CA 94080.

9 3. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise,  
10 of the defendants sued herein under the fictitious names of DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, are  
11 unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sues said defendants by such fictitious names. Each  
12 fictitiously named defendant is responsible in some manner for the violations of law herein  
13 alleged. Plaintiff will amend its complaint to show the true names and capacities of such  
14 defendants, as well as the manner in which each fictitious defendant is responsible for the  
15 violations of law of LegalMatch herein alleged, when these facts are ascertained.

16 4. Whenever in this complaint reference is made to any act of any corporate defendant,  
17 such allegation shall be deemed to mean that such corporate defendant did the acts alleged in  
18 the complaint through its officers, directors, agent, employees, and/or representatives while they  
19 were acting within the actual ostensible scope of their authority.

20 5. The defendants at all times mentioned herein have transacted business within the City  
21 and County of San Francisco and throughout the State of California. The violations of law  
22 herein described have been committed within and from the City and County of San Francisco,  
23 and elsewhere within the State of California.

24 6. The actions of Defendant, as hereinafter set forth, are in violation of the laws and  
25 public policies of the State of California and are inimical to the rights and interests of the general  
26 public as consumers and citizens. Unless the State Bar is granted the remedies sought herein,  
27 including injunctive relief by order of this Court, the Defendant will continue to engage in the  
28

1 unlawful acts and practices set forth below and will continue to cause injury and harm to the  
2 general public.

### 3 INTRODUCTION

4 7. The State Bar is charged with protecting consumers by ensuring that only lawyer  
5 referral services that are registered with and certified by the State Bar as meeting minimum  
6 standards set forth by the State Bar are permitted to operate. (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 6155,  
7 subd. (a)(1), (f).) The Legislature has clearly made unlawful solicitation for or on behalf of an  
8 attorney except when done in a manner that is regulated and compliant with state standards. (Cal.  
9 Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 6152, subd. (a)(1), 6155, subd. (a)(1).) Moreover, attorneys are not  
10 permitted to accept referrals of potential clients unless the lawyer referral service has met those  
11 standards. (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 6155, subd. (a)(1).)

12 8. A certified lawyer referral service must, for example, only recommend attorneys who  
13 meet the State Bar's standards of practice and experience related to the client's legal needs.  
14 Lawyers who participate in a certified lawyer referral service must also carry malpractice  
15 insurance, which means that they have the ability to pay if they are successfully sued for  
16 malpractice. These requirements are designed to protect the public from unqualified and  
17 unscrupulous lawyers. Members of the public are often unable to assess the qualifications and  
18 integrity of a lawyer on their own.

19 9. LegalMatch provides an online lawyer referral service that connects individuals  
20 seeking legal assistance to lawyers who purchase a subscription from LegalMatch. It operates  
21 across the United States, including in California.

22 10. LegalMatch has never been certified to operate as such by the State Bar. Its  
23 operations therefore violate Business & Professions Code Section 6155. Attorneys who accept  
24 or have accepted referrals from LegalMatch also violate Business and Professions Code 6155.

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1 **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

2 **Lawyer Referral Services Are Governed By Bus. & Prof. Code § 6155.**

3 11. Section 6155 provides that an entity may not operate as a lawyer referral service  
4 unless it is registered with the State Bar and is operated in conformity with minimum standards  
5 for a lawyer referral service established by the State Bar. (Section 6155, subd. (a)(1)). The  
6 Statute specifically provides that the State Bar “shall formulate and enforce rules and regulations  
7 for carrying out this section ...,” which includes requiring a lawyer referral service to “register  
8 with the state Bar and obtain from the State bar a certificate of compliance with the minimum  
9 standards for lawyer referral services.” (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 6155, subd. (f)(2).)

10 12. In order to operate, a lawyer referral services must first submit an application for a  
11 certificate of compliance; and, it is only issued by the State Bar if the record demonstrates that  
12 the applicant meets all of the State Bar’s requirements. A lawyer referral service is deemed  
13 registered with the State Bar when it has been certified.

14 13. The Rules of the State Bar provide that certification is mandatory for a lawyer referral  
15 service. “An individual or organization that refers prospective clients to attorneys must comply  
16 with minimum standards and be certified by the State Bar of California as a lawyer referral  
17 service ...” (Rules of the State Bar, Title 3, Div. 5, Art. I, Rule 3.800 *et seq.*). LegalMatch is  
18 therefore required to obtain certification from the State Bar that it complies with the minimum  
19 standards to operate as a lawyer referral service.

20 **LegalMatch Operates an Online Lawyer Referral Business.**

21 14. LegalMatch operates an online service that connects individuals seeking legal  
22 assistance to lawyers who purchase a subscription from LegalMatch. According to the  
23 LegalMatch website, [www.legalmatch.com](http://www.legalmatch.com), in 1999, the Online Legal Matching (OLM) concept  
24 was developed by LegalMatch founding lawyers “with a goal to provide a Web-based exchange  
25 to help individuals and small businesses make educated decisions when choosing a lawyer.”  
26 LegalMatch.com went live in 2000.

27 15. LegalMatch claims that it is the industry leader in attorney/client matching services  
28 and is “the best way to find the right lawyer.” Its website notes that as of 2014, three million

1 cases had been posted to LegalMatch and the website hit 25 million-page views.  
2 (<https://www.legalmatch.com/attorneys/companyinfo.html>.) Presently, the home page notes that  
3 LegalMatch has increased its business to four million total posted cases.  
4 (<https://www.legalmatch.com/>).

5 16. In *Jackson v. LegalMatch.com* (2019) 42 Cal.App.5th 760, 764, review denied (Mar.  
6 11, 2020)) (“*Jackson*”), the California Court of Appeal determined that LegalMatch engages in  
7 referral activity for purposes of California Business & Professions Code section 6155 which  
8 regulates lawyer referral services.

9 17. The *Jackson* court looked to language included on the LegalMatch website to  
10 determine that, as a matter of law, LegalMatch operates as an attorney referral service. “Indeed,  
11 LegalMatch states that it “connect[s] people in immediate need of legal services with the right  
12 attorneys,” and admits that consumers’ inquiries are “automatically sent” to subscribing  
13 attorneys. (*Jackson, supra*, 42 Cal.App.5th at 778).

14 **LegalMatch Has Not Received Certification from the State Bar to Operate a Lawyer**  
15 **Referral Service.**

16 18. LegalMatch has not been certified by the State Bar to operate a lawyer referral  
17 service.

18 19. On March 20, 2020, shortly after the *Jackson* decision was issued, the State Bar wrote  
19 to LegalMatch to demand that LegalMatch “immediately cease operations until such time as it is  
20 duly certified as a lawyer referral service under section 6155 and State Bar Rules.” (See attached  
21 as Exhibit A the State Bar’s March 20, 2020 letter to LegalMatch).

22 20. LegalMatch has failed to respond to the State Bar’s March 20, 2020 directive that it  
23 cease and desist all operations until it is duly certified as a lawyer referral service.

24 **LegalMatch Continues To Operate Without State Bar Certification.**

25 21. Upon information and belief, LegalMatch remains in operation despite its lack of  
26 certification. LegalMatch’s website, [www.legalmatch.com](http://www.legalmatch.com), indicates that LegalMatch is  
27 operating as a lawyer referral service despite its lack of certification. The website currently  
28 contains statements that are very similar to the phrases on which the *Jackson* court relied in

1 holding that LegalMatch engages in referral activity within the meaning of Section 6155 of the  
2 Business and Professions Code.

3 22. For example, LegalMatch describes its business as a “legal service” that “matches  
4 you with highly rated, licensed lawyers near you—for free.” LegalMatch’s website currently  
5 states:

6 “When you need to find a lawyer, our no-cost system provides you with  
7 access to pre-screened lawyers through a quick and painless process.  
8 Immediately after you present your case, email notifications are sent to  
9 lawyers that match the geographic location and legal practice area you  
10 specify. Within 24 hours, your case is reviewed, evaluated, and when a  
11 lawyer is interested in taking your case, you’ll receive a full attorney  
12 profile and their background information.”

13 “Within a few hours after you submit your case, you may receive  
14 responses from local attorneys by phone or email.”

15 (www.legalmatch.com/ - last accessed April 27, 2020. See attached as Exhibit B screen shots  
16 from the LegalMatch website.)

17 23. LegalMatch also maintains LinkedIn and Facebook pages with information about its  
18 service and on which it solicits attorneys to become panel members. (See Exhibits C and D  
19 screen shots from Facebook and LinkedIn.)

20 24. There are no disclaimers on the LegalMatch website, Facebook or LinkedIn, stating  
21 that LegalMatch is not certified to operate in California as a lawyer referral service, or that it  
22 cannot make referrals or legally operate until it is duly certified. Thus, lawyers who accept  
23 referrals LegalMatch do so unlawfully. Members of the public who use LegalMatch to retain an  
24 attorney do so without the client protections provided by the State Bar’s certification standards  
25 described above.

26 25. LegalMatch’s continued operations violate Bus. & Prof. Code section 6155, and the  
27 State Bar should be granted an order enjoining such violation.

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1 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **Violation of Business & Professions Code § 6155**

3 **(Against Defendant LegalMatch)**

4 26. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in each  
5 preceding paragraph of this complaint.

6 27. Business and Professions Code section 6155 governs the regulation of lawyer referral  
7 services by ensuring that they comply with certain minimum standards formulated and enforced  
8 by the State Bar. Section 6155, subd. (a)(1) provides in relevant part:

- 9 a. An individual, partnership, corporation, association, or any other entity  
10 **shall not operate** for the direct or indirect purpose, in whole or in part, of  
11 referring potential clients to attorneys, and no attorney shall accept a  
12 referral of such potential clients, unless all of the following requirements  
13 are met:

14 (1) The service is registered with the State Bar of California and  
15 (a) on July 1, 1988 is operated in conformity with minimum  
16 standards for a lawyer referral service established by the State Bar  
17 ... (emphasis added.)

18 28. Business and Professions Code section 6155, subd. (f) provides in relevant part:

19 (f) With the approval of the Supreme Court, the State Bar shall formulate and  
20 enforce rules and regulations for carrying out this section, including rules and  
21 regulations that do the following:

22 (1) Establish minimum standards for lawyer referral services. The minimum  
23 standards shall include provisions ensuring that panel membership shall be  
24 open to all attorneys practicing in the geographical area served who are  
25 qualified by virtue of suitable experience, and limiting attorney registration  
26 and membership fees to reasonable sums that do not discourage widespread  
27 attorney membership.

28 (2) Require that an entity seeking to qualify as a lawyer referral service register  
with the State Bar and obtain from the State Bar a certificate of compliance  
with minimum standards for lawyer referral services.

(3) Require that the certificate may be obtained, maintained, suspended, or  
revoked pursuant to procedures set forth in the rules and regulations. ...

29 As alleged above, LegalMatch operates an online lawyer referral service for the  
30 direct purpose of referring potential clients to attorneys in California who subscribe to



1 LegalMatch's services. LegalMatch thus operates a lawyer referral service within the meaning  
2 of Section 6155. LegalMatch is not registered as a lawyer referral service with the State Bar in  
3 violation of Bus. & Prof. Code § 6155, subd. (a)(1).

4 30. The State Bar has demanded that LegalMatch refrain from operating as an unlicensed  
5 lawyer referral service to no avail. On information and belief, LegalMatch continues to operate  
6 as an uncertified and unregistered lawyer referral service in violation of Bus. & Prof. Code §  
7 6155.

8 31. Continuing commission by Defendant of the acts alleged above will irreparably harm  
9 the citizens of the State of California, for which harm they have no plain, speedy, or adequate  
10 remedy at law.

11 Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant, as set forth hereafter.

12 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

13 **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff prays for the Court to enter judgment and for relief as follows:

14 1. That the Court issue an order pursuant to Bus. & Prof. Code § 6155, subd. (e)  
15 preliminarily and permanently enjoining LegalMatch from engaging in the unlawful operation of  
16 an uncertified lawyer referral service in violation of Bus. & Prof. Code § 6155.

17 2. For an order awarding the State Bar civil penalties against LegalMatch as provided  
18 for in Bus. & Prof. Code § 6156, subd. (a), in an amount as specified in the statute.

19 3. For an order awarding the State Bar its reasonable expenses as provided for in Bus. &  
20 Prof. Code § 6156, subd. (b), in an amount to be awarded at trial.

21 4. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

22 Dated: May 4, 2020

STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA  
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL  
VANESSA L. HOLTON  
General Counsel  
ROBERT G. RETANA  
Deputy General Counsel

23  
24  
25  
26 By: 

ALISON V. LIPPA  
Assistant General Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

# EXHIBIT A



# The State Bar of California

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

180 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

[alison.lippa@calbar.ca.gov](mailto:alison.lippa@calbar.ca.gov)

March 20, 2020

Via E-mail [anna.ostrovsky@legalmatch.com](mailto:anna.ostrovsky@legalmatch.com)

Ms. Anna Ostrovsky  
Chief Operating Officer  
LegalMatch.com  
395 Oyster Point Blvd, Suite 309  
South San Francisco, CA 94080

RE: LegalMatch.com Application for LRS Certification

Dear Ms. Ostrovsky:

Following the California Supreme Court's March 11, 2020 denial of review in *Jackson v. LegalMatch.com* (2019) 42 Cal.App.5th 760 ("*Jackson*"), the California Court of Appeal's opinion is final that LegalMatch.com ("*LegalMatch*") engaged in referral activity for purposes of Business & Professions Code section 6155 ("*section 6155*").

Since the *Jackson* opinion was issued on November 26, 2019, the California State Bar ("*State Bar*") has sent LegalMatch several communications inquiring about the timing of your submission for certification under section 6155. On December 12, 2019, per your request, the State Bar sent you an application for certification as a lawyer referral service ("*LRS*"). You inquired at that time whether the State Bar would give assurances that no attorneys who subscribe to your service would be disciplined for accepting referrals from LegalMatch. On January 3, 2020, the State Bar's former Executive Director, Leah T. Wilson, informed you that the State Bar could not offer assurances that attorney subscribers to LegalMatch would not be disciplined for their participation in your service.

You also requested "temporary registration" for your services. Ms. Wilson's January 3 letter explained that the State Bar would be willing to work with LegalMatch throughout the certification process, but that there is no procedure available for "temporary registration." You were notified that LegalMatch must meet the minimum certification requirements for an LRS before State Bar certification would be granted. Ms. Wilson further outlined the LRS application process and provided copies of the relevant sections of the Business and Professions Code and Rules of the State Bar.

Anna Ostrovsky  
Re: LegalMatch.com LRS certification application  
March 20, 2020  
Page 2

On January 17, 2020, you emailed Christal Bundang of the State Bar's Office of Access & Inclusion a list of questions concerning, among other things, the certification process. In that email you asked about "flexibility" of the rule that LRS panel members carry malpractice insurance. On January 30, 2020, Randall Difuntorum, Program Director of the Office of Professional Competence, responded in a detailed letter that explained, again, that the LRS requirements set forth in the Business & Professions Code and the State Bar Rules and all legal requirements, including the requirement for attorneys to carry malpractice insurance, must be met and cannot be waived. Mr. Difuntorum explained that "LegalMatch must become certified by the State Bar and comply with the minimum standards set forth in section 6155 and the Rules of the State Bar in order to continue operating."

On February 24, 2020, upon receiving no response to his January 30, 2020 letter, Mr. Difuntorum wrote to you again to remind you that LegalMatch must obtain certification to operate as an LRS. He requested that you provide him with an update on the status of LegalMatch's submission of its certification application as soon as possible.

On February 28, 2020, you responded via email that you were "close to finalizing the initial draft" of your application. You asserted that LegalMatch had difficulty in complying with the requirement that LRS panel members must carry malpractice insurance, and you indicated LegalMatch's interest in avoiding any final action on their members in the weeks before the Supreme Court issued its response to your petition for review of the *Jackson* opinion. You requested a telephone call to discuss these issues with the State Bar.

On March 6, 2020, Mr. Difuntorum responded to your February 28, 2020 email. He reiterated that the malpractice insurance requirement is mandated by statute and the Rules of the State Bar and therefore cannot be waived. He also reiterated that because LegalMatch has been deemed to be a lawyer referral service, it must be certified by the State Bar. He explained that a "grace period" could not be granted for your application. He reminded you that LegalMatch would be in knowing violation of the law if it continues to operate without certification. He agreed to a call but only after LegalMatch has submitted its application. He informed you again that LegalMatch may be operating in violation of Section 6155, and therefore liable for civil penalties. He again requested that you submit LegalMatch's application forthwith.

On March 11, 2020, the California Supreme Court denied your petition for review. On that same date, you wrote to Mr. Difuntorum stating that you would be making "internal modifications to meet the new requirements" so that you could submit LegalMatch's application.

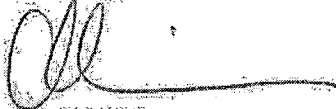
It has now been over three months since LegalMatch obtained the LRS certification application in December, 2019. While you indicated in late February that an initial draft is close to final, it is now almost one month later and we have not received your application. You have asserted that you are working on "getting an application filed before the end of this month." We still do not have your completed application nor do we have a date certain by which you intend to submit the application.

Anna Ostrovsky  
Re: LegalMatch.com LRS certification application  
March 20, 2020  
Page 3

Please be advised that the State Bar requires that LegalMatch submit its completed application for LRS certification no later than Tuesday March 31, 2020. As LegalMatch is currently operating as an uncertified lawyer referral service, it must immediately cease operations until such time as it is duly certified as a lawyer referral service under section 6155 and State Bar Rules. Otherwise the State Bar will take all appropriate action, including but not limited to the commencement of a civil enforcement action against LegalMatch and any person having an ownership interest in the lawyer referral service, pursuant to Business & Professions Code section 6030. LegalMatch may be subject to civil penalties and reimbursement to the State Bar of the reasonable costs of its investigation and prosecution of any civil action pursuant to Business & Professions Code section 6156.

If you would like to discuss this matter, you may contact me at (415) 538-2333 or [alison.lippa@calbar.ca.gov](mailto:alison.lippa@calbar.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Alison Lippa  
Assistant General Counsel

cc: Randall Difuntorum, Program Director, Office of Professional Competence  
The State Bar of California

# EXHIBIT B



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Business Law Lawyers (/Business-Lawyers.Html)



Estate Lawyers (/Estate-Lawyers.Html)

Intellectual Property Lawyers (/Intellectual-Property-Lawyers.Html)

Financial Lawyers (/Financial-Lawyers.Html)

Wills Probate Lawyers (/Wills-Probate-Lawyers.Html)

Divorce Lawyers (/Divorce-Lawyers.Html)

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## How It Works

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## How It Works - Attorneys



### 1. Post Your Case

It's FREE and easy, interested attorneys send you responses.

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### 2. Review Responses

Compare fees, client ratings, and full background information.  
(/how-it-works.html)



### 3. Choose an Attorney

Meet for initial consultations and decide who is the right fit.  
(/how-it-works.html)

## What People Are Saying About LegalMatch

◀ *I needed assistance with some legal matters and didn't know where to go. I found LegalMatch and decided to give it a try. Instantly after filling out their questionnaire, I started receiving calls from the exact lawyers I needed for my legal matters.* ▶

— Diana, United States

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Our staff is dedicated to keeping things running as smoothly as possible for all our member attorneys as well as the thousands of legal clients who post new cases each week. For all the #attorneys interested in running their firms on a more "virtual" basis during the #COVID-19 outbreak, Clio did an excellent job at outlining how attorneys can get set-up to work from home. They make some very good #LegalTech for running a law firm remotely. Their tools, like ours work from mob...

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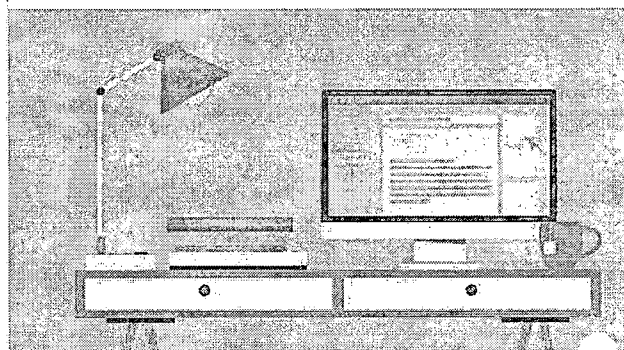


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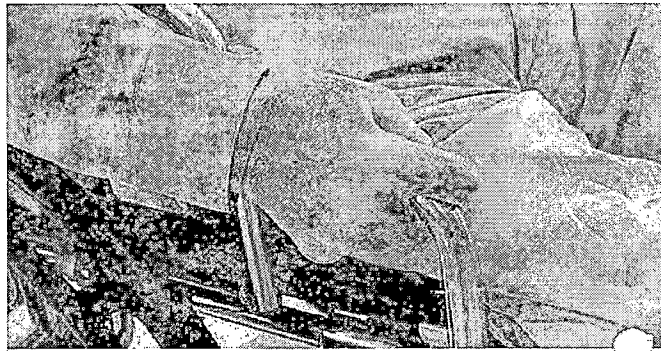
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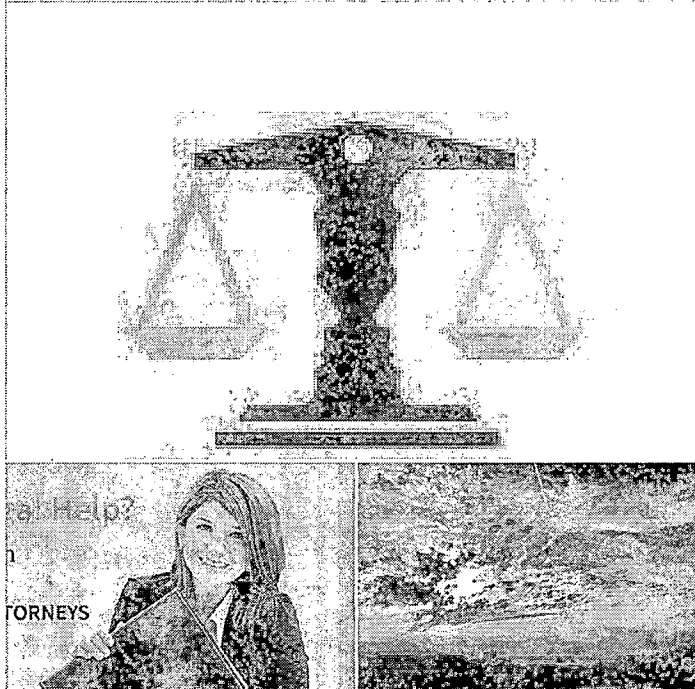
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ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, Street, City, State, ZIP, and address):

Alison V. Lipa (SBN 160807)

The State Bar of California, Office of General Counsel  
180 Howard Street, San Francisco CA 94105-1639

TELEPHONE NO.: 415-538-2333

FAX NO. (Optional): 415-538-2321

ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiff The State Bar of California

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

STREET ADDRESS: 400 McAllister Street

MAILING ADDRESS:

CITY AND ZIP CODE: San Francisco CA 94102

BRANCH NAME: Civic Center Courthouse

CASE NAME:

The State Bar of California v. Legalmatch.com, a corporation; and DOES 1-10, inclusive.

FOR COURT USE ONLY

**FILED**Superior Court of California  
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MAY 04 2020

CLERK OF THE COURT

BY:

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## CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET

☒ **Unlimited**  
(Amount  
demanded  
exceeds \$25,000)

☒ **Limited**  
(Amount  
demanded is  
\$25,000)

## Complex Case Designation

☐ **Counter** ☐ **Joinder**  
Filed with first appearance by defendant  
(Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)

CASE NUMBER

**CGC-20-584278**

JUDGE

DEPT.

Items 1-6 below must be completed (see instructions on page 2).

1. Check one box below for the case type that best describes this case:

## Auto Tort

☐ Auto (22)☐ Uninsured motorist (46)☐ Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property  
Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort☐ Asbestos (04)☐ Product liability (24)☐ Medical malpractice (45)☐ Other PI/PD/WD (23)

## Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort

☐ Business tort/unfair business practice (07)☐ Civil rights (08)☐ Defamation (13)☐ Fraud (16)☐ Intellectual property (19)☐ Professional negligence (25)☐ Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)

## Employment

☐ Wrongful termination (36)☐ Other employment (15)

## Contract

☐ Breach of contract/warranty (06)☐ Rule 3.740 collections (09)☐ Other collections (09)☐ Insurance coverage (18)☐ Other contract (37)

## Real Property

☐ Eminent domain/inverse  
condemnation (14)☐ Wrongful eviction (33)☐ Other real property (26)

## Unlawful Detainer

☐ Commercial (31)☐ Residential (32)☐ Drugs (38)

## Judicial Review

☐ Asset forfeiture (05)☐ Petition re: arbitration award (11)☐ Writ of mandate (02)☐ Other judicial review (39)Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation:  
(Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403)☐ Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)☐ Construction defect (10)☐ Mass tort (40)☐ Securities litigation (28)☐ Environmental/Toxic tort (30)☐ Insurance coverage claims arising from the  
above listed provisionally complex case  
types (41)

## Enforcement of Judgment

☐ Enforcement of judgment (20)

## Miscellaneous Civil Complaint

☐ RICO (27)☒ Other complaint (not specified above) (42)

## Miscellaneous Civil Petition

☐ Partnership and corporate governance (21)☐ Other petition (not specified above) (43)2. This case ☐ is ☒ is not complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court. If the case is complex, mark the factors requiring exceptional judicial management:a. ☐ Large number of separately represented partiesd. ☐ Large number of witnessesb. ☐ Extensive motion practice raising difficult or novel  
issues that will be time-consuming to resolvee. ☐ Coordination with related actions pending in one or more  
courts in other counties, states, or countries, or in a federal  
courtc. ☐ Substantial amount of documentary evidencef. ☐ Substantial postjudgment judicial supervision3. Remedies sought (check all that apply): a. ☐ monetary b. ☒ nonmonetary; declaratory or injunctive relief c. ☐ punitive

4. Number of causes of action (specify): One cause of action -- Violation of Business &amp; Professions Code § 6155

5. This case ☐ is ☒ is not a class-action suit.

6. If there are any known related cases, file and serve a notice of related case. (You may use form CM-015.)

Date: May 4, 2020

ALISON V. LIPPA

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

(SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)

## NOTICE

- Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the first paper filed in the action or proceeding (except small claims cases or cases filed under the Probate Code, Family Code, or Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result in sanctions.
- File this cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet required by local court rule.
- If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et seq. of the California Rules of Court, you must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all other parties to the action or proceeding.
- Unless this is a collections case under rule 3.740 or a complex case, this cover sheet will be used for statistical purposes only.

Page 1 of 2

# INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE COVER SHEET

CM-010

**To Plaintiffs and Others Filing First Papers.** If you are filing a first paper (for example, a complaint) in a civil case, you must complete and file, along with your first paper, the Civil Case Cover Sheet contained on page 1. This information will be used to compile statistics about the types and numbers of cases filed. You must complete items 1 through 6 on the sheet. In item 1, you must check one box for the case type that best describes the case. If the case fits both a general and a more specific type of case listed in item 1, check the more specific one. If the case has multiple causes of action, check the box that best indicates the primary cause of action. To assist you in completing the sheet, examples of the cases that belong under each case type in item 1 are provided below. A cover sheet must be filed only with your initial paper. Failure to file a cover sheet with the first paper filed in a civil case may subject a party, its counsel, or both to sanctions under rules 2.30 and 3.220 of the California Rules of Court.

**To Parties in Rule 3.740 Collections Cases.** A "collections case" under rule 3.740 is defined as an action for recovery of money owed in a sum stated to be certain that is not more than \$25,000, exclusive of interest and attorney's fees, arising from a transaction in which property, services, or money was acquired on credit. A collections case does not include an action seeking the following: (1) tort damages, (2) punitive damages, (3) recovery of real property, (4) recovery of personal property, or (5) a prejudgment writ of attachment. The identification of a case as a rule 3.740 collections case on this form means that it will be exempt from the general time-for-service requirements and case management rules, unless a defendant files a responsive pleading. A rule 3.740 collections case will be subject to the requirements for service and obtaining a judgment in rule 3.740.

**To Parties in Complex Cases.** In complex cases only, parties must also use the Civil Case Cover Sheet to designate whether the case is complex. If a plaintiff believes the case is complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court, this must be indicated by completing the appropriate boxes in items 1 and 2. If a plaintiff designates a case as complex, the cover sheet must be served with the complaint on all parties to the action. A defendant may file and serve no later than the time of its first appearance a joinder in the plaintiff's designation, a counter-designation that the case is not complex, or, if the plaintiff has made no designation, a designation that the case is complex.

## CASE TYPES AND EXAMPLES

### Auto Tort

Auto (22)-Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death  
Uninsured Motorist (46) (if the case involves an uninsured motorist claim, subject to arbitration, check this item instead of Auto)

### Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort

Asbestos (04)  
Asbestos Property Damage  
Asbestos Personal Injury/Wrongful Death  
Product Liability (not asbestos or toxic/environmental) (24)  
Medical Malpractice (45)  
Medical Malpractice-Physicians & Surgeons  
Other Professional Health Care Malpractice  
Other PI/PD/WD (23)  
Premises Liability (e.g., slip and fall)  
Intentional Bodily Injury/PD/WD (e.g., assault, vandalism)  
Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress  
Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress  
Other PI/PD/WD

### Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort

Business Tort/Unfair Business Practice (07)  
Civil Rights (e.g., discrimination; false arrest) (not civil harassment) (08)  
Defamation (e.g., slander, libel) (13)  
Fraud (16)  
Intellectual Property (19)  
Professional Negligence (25)  
Legal Malpractice  
Other Professional Malpractice (not medical or legal)  
Other Non-PI/PD/WD Tort (35)

### Employment

Wrongful Termination (36)  
Other Employment (15)

### Contract

Breach of Contract/Warranty (06)  
Breach of Rental/Lease  
Contract (not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction)  
Contract/Warranty Breach-Seller  
Plaintiff (not fraud or negligence)  
Negligent Breach of Contract/Warranty  
Other Breach of Contract/Warranty  
Collections (e.g., money owed, open book accounts) (09)  
Collection Case-Seller-Plaintiff  
Other Promissory Note/Collections Case  
Insurance Coverage (not provisionally complex) (18)  
Auto Subrogation  
Other Coverage  
Other Contract (37)  
Contractual Fraud  
Other Contract Dispute

### Real Property

Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation (14)  
Wrongful Eviction (33)  
Other Real Property (e.g., quiet title) (26)  
Writ of Possession of Real Property  
Mortgage Foreclosure  
Quiet Title  
Other Real Property (not eminent domain, landlord/tenant, or foreclosure)

### Unlawful Detainer

Commercial (31)  
Residential (32)  
Drugs (38) (if the case involves illegal drugs, check this item; otherwise, report as Commercial or Residential)  
Judicial Review

Asset Forfeiture (05)  
Petition Re: Arbitration Award (11)  
Writ of Mandate (02)  
Writ-Administrative Mandamus  
Writ-Mandamus on Limited Court Case Matter  
Writ-Other Limited Court Case Review  
Other Judicial Review (39)  
Review of Health Officer Order  
Notice of Appeal-Labor Commissioner Appeals

### Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court Rules 3.400-3.403)

Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)  
Construction Defect (10)  
Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)  
Securities Litigation (28)  
Environmental/Toxic Tort (30)  
Insurance Coverage Claims (arising from provisionally complex case type listed above) (41)

### Enforcement of Judgment

Enforcement of Judgment (20)  
Abstract of Judgment (Out of County)  
Confession of Judgment (non-domestic relations)  
Sister State Judgment  
Administrative Agency Award (not unpaid taxes)  
Petition/Certification of Entry of Judgment on Unpaid Taxes  
Other Enforcement of Judgment Case

### Miscellaneous Civil Complaint

RICO (27)  
Other Complaint (not specified above) (42)  
Declaratory Relief Only  
Injunctive Relief Only (non-harassment)  
Mechanics Lien  
Other Commercial Complaint Case (non-tort/non-complex)  
Other Civil Complaint (non-tort/non-complex)

### Miscellaneous Civil Petition

Partnership and Corporate Governance (21)  
Other Petition (not specified above) (43)  
Civil Harassment  
Workplace Violence  
Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse  
Election Contest  
Petition for Name Change  
Petition for Relief From Late Claim  
Other Civil Petition