REGULATORY AGENCY ACTION

1032, Statutes of 1988).

AB 4693 (Grisham), as amended on August 8, requires BCSR exam applicants to apply to take the exam at least 45 days in advance of the exam. With regard to renewal, reinstatement, or reissuance of a BCSR certificate after its expiration, the bill reduces the previous five-year period to three years after expiration, and requires the holder to return the expired certificate to the Board to obtain a new certificate.

The bill also provides that a certificate may be suspended or revoked for the violation of specified laws governing CSRs, or violation of the Board’s regulations. Finally, the bill requires court reporting schools to file a current school catalog with the Board not later than June 30 of each year. This bill was signed by the Governor on September 24 (Chapter 1327, Statutes of 1988).

RECENT MEETINGS:

At its August 27 meeting, the Board considered improving its examination by providing a videotaped dictation section. This would help to regulate the speed of dictation, and ensure that all examinees work under equal conditions. A prototype will be made available within twelve months for school trial. The Board was also informed that additional funding will be required to update the English portion of the examination. These funds will be requested in the next session of the legislature.

Executive Officer Richard Black plans to produce a brochure which will notify potential students of opportunities in the shorthand reporting field. The Board believes this step may alleviate the apparent shortage of CSRs.

Board members decided to visit the California School of Court Reporting in Riverside in November to monitor quality. In February, Board members will inspect Vista Del Mar in Fresno, and Golden State College in Visalia.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

December 10 in Sacramento.
February 25 in Universal City.

TAX PREPARER PROGRAM

Administrator: Don Procida
(916) 324-4977


Registrants must be at least eighteen years old, have a high school diploma or pass an equivalency exam, have completed sixty hours of instruction in basic personal income tax law, theory and practice within the previous eighteen months or have at least two years’ experience equivalent to that instruction. Twenty hours of continuing education are required each year.

Prior to registration, tax preparers must deposit a bond or cash in the amount of $2,000 with the Department