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Information

Professional Practices Committee

Division of Professional Practices Workload Report

Executive Summary: This agenda item provides a report on the Division of Professional Practices' current workload.

Recommended Action: For Information only

Presenter: Rachel Grizzaffi, Director, Division of Professional Practices

Strategic Plan Goal

Professional Licensure

- **Goal 6.** Educators are of high moral character and act accordingly.
 - M. Set and communicate rigorous standards of professionalism for educators.
 - N. Investigate allegations of misconduct and take appropriate disciplinary action in relation to the educator's credentials.

Division of Professional Practices Workload Report

Introduction

Updates on the Commission's Division of Professional Practices (DPP) workload are presented to the Commission to provide insight into the scope and level of current work in educator discipline. This report covers the period of December 2023 – February 2024.

Background

The Commission's dashboards report on six key measurements in line-graph form, showing both current year numbers as well as prior year numbers for comparison purposes.

The "Total Cases" are the number of open cases within DPP, including cases in the Intake Unit, before the Committee of Credentials (Committee), pending before the Commission, and pending an administrative hearing. At the end of February, DPPs caseload was at 3,347.

"Cases Opened" are new cases opened during the month, from all sources, including criminal arrest notices, district reports, affidavits, and educators who self-report misconduct. In February, DPP opened 674 cases. The increase in Total Cases is evidenced by the number of cases DPP has opened in both January and February.

The "Initial Review" and "Formal Review" charts reflect the number of cases reviewed by the Committee at its normal three-day meeting in February. This two-step review process is required by statute. There were 90 Initial Review cases prepared in February. DPP expects this number to fluctuate as cases move through the Committee process.

"Cases Closed" is the number of matters closed by Commission action, Committee action or closed by staff where the Commission has given formal delegation of authority (i.e., single alcohol offenses that do not involve schools, minors, or publicity). In February, 461 cases were closed, which is within the normal monthly range of 400-500.

"AG Cases" refers to cases in which an educator requests an administrative hearing to challenge the recommendation for discipline made by the Committee. An administrative hearing is an evidentiary proceeding where an administrative law judge hears and rules on the evidence. The Commission is represented in these hearings by the Office of the Attorney General (AG). The number of cases where the AG is representing the Commission is shown in the last graph. The number of cases currently at the administrative hearing stage is 180.

Next Steps

DPP is committed to work that is critical to public service and the Commission's mission. DPP continues to maintain a steady case production, while at the same time ensuring quality case preparation for the Committee.

DPP Monthly Dashboard Reports

