

Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95833 P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818 P (916) 431-6959 F (916) 263-1897 www.bppe.ca.gov



CITATION: AMENDED ASSESSMENT OF FINE AND ORDER OF ABATEMENT

To: Leslie A. Bean, Owner Future College California 342 E. 65th St. Los Angeles, CA 90003

INSTITUTION CODE: Unapproved CITATION NUMBER: 1819036

CITATION ISSUANCE/SERVICE DATE: October 9, 2018

DUE DATE: November 8, 2018
FINE AMOUNT: \$100,000.00

ORDER OF ABATEMENT INCLUDED: YES

Christina Villanueva issues this Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement (Citation) in her official capacity as Discipline Manager for the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) of the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

CITATION

A Citation is hereby issued to Leslie A. Bean (Bean), Owner of Future College California (Institution) currently located at 342 E. 65th St., Los Angeles, CA 90003 and formerly located at 1533 E. Del Amo Blvd., Carson CA 90746, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.9 and 149; California Education Code (CEC) section 94944; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5, CCR) section 75020 for the violation(s) described below.

BACKGROUND

On October 28, 2016, the Bureau received a complaint that the Institution was operating without Bureau approval in violation of CEC section 94886. Bureau staff reviewed the complaint and supporting documentation and found that the Institution was advertising an Associate of Arts degree in Business, an Associate of Arts degree in General Studies, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sports Business. The Bureau staff obtained supporting documentation from the Institution's school catalog located on its website (www.futurecollegeca.com), stating that it had an Application for Approval to Operate pending with the Bureau and that the Institution offered Federal student financial aid. Through the course of the Bureau's investigation, the Bureau found that the Institution was operated by Bean at 533 E. Del Amo Blvd., Carson, CA 90746, had a telephone number of (888) 234-1919, did not have an Application for Approval to Operate pending with the Bureau, and did not meet any of the qualifications of an exempt institution outlined by CEC section 94874(f). Therefore, the Institution is operating in violation of CEC section 94886.

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VIOLATION(S)

Below you will find the California Education Code (CEC) and/or Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5, CCR code) section(s) of law you are charged with violating.

1. Violation:

CEC 94886. Approval to Operate Required

"Except as exempted in Article 4 (commencing with Section 94874) or in compliance with the transition provisions in Article 2 (commencing with Section 94802), a person shall not open, conduct, or do business as a private postsecondary educational institution in this state without obtaining an approval to operate under this chapter."

CEC 94817.5. Approved to Operate or Approved

"Approved to operate" or "approved" means that an institution has received authorization pursuant to this chapter to offer to the public and to provide postsecondary educational programs."

CEC 94868. To Offer to the Public

"To offer to the public" means to advertise, publicize, solicit, or recruit."

CEC 94869. To Operate

"To operate" means to establish, keep, or maintain any facility or location in this state where, or from which, or through which, postsecondary educational programs are provided."

On October 28, 2016, the Bureau received a complaint and supporting documentation showing that the Institution was operating without Bureau approval in violation of CEC section 94886.

On October 31, 2016, Bureau staff reviewed the Institution's website at www.futurecollegeca.com. The website stated that the Institution offered an Associate degree program for \$6,000.00 a year in tuition, through an affiliated college. That website also stated that the Institution offered an English as a Second Language (ESL) program to international students for \$10,000.00 per year in tuition. The website further states that Institution is actively enrolling students and collecting student's tuition.

On November 8, 2016, Bureau staff mailed the Institution a letter stating that it was operating without Bureau approval, in violation of CEC section 94886. To date, the Institution has not responded to that letter.

On November 8, 2016, Bureau staff found Bean's name listed on the DataGovUs.com website at http://datagovus.com/los-angeles-business.php?id=0002615273-0001-9. According to that website, Bean was doing business as (DBA) Future College Prep at 1533 E. Del Amo Blvd., Carson, CA 90746-3173.

On November 30, 2016, Bureau staff reviewed the Institution's website again at www.futurecollegeca.com and found a message stating "SITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION." Bureau staff sent an e-mail message to the e-mail address admin@futurecollegeca.com which was still listed on the Institution's website. To date, the Institution has not responded to that e-mail message.

On December 6, 2016, Bureau staff interviewed a former student of the Institution, A.C. A.C. stated that Bean recruited him with the promise of scholarships for books, transportation, tuition, and housing. A.C. stated that he and a fellow student paid "athletic fees" and "school fees" to the Institution through a PayPal account. A.C. stated that the contact telephone number on Institution's website was the same as Bean's cellular telephone number. A.C. stated that he eventually learned that Bean was operating a basketball team, but not a school. A.C. stated that Institution was located on Del Amo Blvd. in Carson, California.

On December 8, 2016, Bureau staff interviewed the Chief Executive Officer, G.E., of an affiliated school named CPC. G.E. stated that CPC did not have formal agreement with the Institution. However, the Institution did refer two students to CPC so that they could enroll in ESL classes.

On January 11, 2017, Bureau staff interviewed a Harbor City, California Boys and Girls Club Director named M.H. M.H. stated that Bean ran a basketball program at the Harbor City Boys and Girls Club for 6 months. M.H. stated that Bean arranged for the Institution's students to take Scholastic Achievement Tests, complete their high school educations, and enroll in other classes. M.H. stated that Bean was affiliated with the school, Future College Prep.

On March 8, 2018, Bureau staff contacted the city of Los Angeles' Office of Finance and requested the Institution's taxpayer information. On March 9, 2018, that office sent Bureau staff an e-mail with the Institution's General Taxpayer Information form attached to it. That form lists Bean under a Legal Name column and Future College Prep under a DBA at 1533 E. Del Amo Blvd., Carson CA 90746.

Order of Abatement:

The Bureau orders that the Institution cease to operate as a private postsecondary educational institution. The Institution must discontinue recruiting or enrolling students and cease all instructional services and advertising in any form or type of media, including the website www.futurecollegeca.com, and any other websites not identified here that are associated with the Institution, until such time as an approval to operate is obtained from the Bureau. The Institution must disconnect all telephone service numbers including but not limited to, (888) 234-1919, that are associated with the Institution until such time as an approval to operate is obtained from the Bureau. To comply with the Order of Abatement the Institution must submit a school closure plan to the Bureau pursuant to California Education Code section 94926. The institution must provide a roster of each student currently enrolled at the Institution. The roster must include the names of the students, their contact information (including phone number, email address, and physical address), the programs in which they are enrolled, the amount paid for the programs.

Assessment of Fine

The fine for this violation is \$100,000.00

TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: \$100,000.00

ASSESSMENT OF A FINE

In Accordance with CEC section 94944; and 5, CCR section 75020(b), the Bureau hereby orders this assessment of a fine in the amount of \$100,000.00 for the violations described above. Payment must be made, to the Bureau, within 30 days from the date of service of the Citation.

COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER OF ABATEMENT

In Accordance with the provisions of 5, CCR Section 75020 (b) the Bureau hereby issues the order(s) of abatement described above. In Accordance with Business and Professions Code Section 149, the Bureau may disconnect any telephone service numbers used by an unapproved Institution. Evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement must be submitted, to the Bureau, within 30 days from the date of service of the Citation.

APPEAL OF CITATION

You have the right to contest this Citation through an informal conference with the Bureau; and/or through an administrative hearing in Accordance with Chapter 5 (Commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

If you wish to contest this Citation, you must submit the 'Notice of Appeal of Citation – Request for Informal Conference and/or Administrative Hearing' form (enclosed) within <u>30 days</u> from the date of service of the Citation. If you do not request an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing within 30 days from the service of the Citation, you will not be able to request one at a later time.

Unless a written request for an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing is signed by you and delivered to the Bureau by **November 8, 2018,** you will be deemed to have waived or forfeited your right to appeal this matter.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF CITATION

If you do not request an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing, this Citation shall become effective on **October 9, 2018.** Payment of the administrative fine and evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement shall be due by **November 8, 2018.** Your payment of the administrative fine shall not constitute an admission of the violation(s) charged.

If a hearing is requested, you will not be required to comply with this Citation until 30 days after a final order is entered against you.

Payment of the administrative fine and/or written request for appeal must be mailed to:

Gurinder Sandhu, Discipline Citation Program
Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95833

Failure for an applicant or institution to abate the violation(s) listed above or to pay the administrative fine within the time allowed may result in denial of an application for an approval or renewal to operate; disciplinary Action, and/or collection Action. The Bureau will promptly take all appropriate Action to enforce this Citation and recover the civil penalties prescribed therein or found to be due after a hearing.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding this Citation, or desire further information, please contact Gurinder Sandhu, Citation Analyst, at 916-431-6940 or Gurinder.sandhu@dca.ca.gov.

Christina Villanueva Discipline Manager

Date

Enclosures

- > Applicable Laws Violated
- > Statement of Rights: Appeal Process Information Sheet
- Notice of Appeal of Citation: Request for Informal Conference and/or Administrative Hearing
- > Payment of Fine Waiver of Appeal
- Declaration of Service by Certified and First-Class Mail