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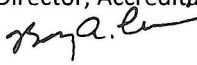
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MEMORANDUM

To: Western State Students

From: Barry Currier, Managing Director, Accreditation
and Legal Education 

Date: March 4, 2019

RE: Western State College of Law

**Section of Legal Education
and Admissions to the Bar**
Office of the Managing Director
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Dear Western State students,

I write regarding the difficult situation facing the Western State College of Law community. It is particularly distressing because of the impact on the disbursement of your federal student loans and opportunity to complete your legal education at Western State College of Law. I appreciate Dean Easley distributing this message to you.

In response to questions we have been asked in calls or emails to our office, Western State College of Law remains an ABA-approved ABA law school. It will remain so unless and until our Council (the governing body of the Section of Legal Education and Admission to the Bar and the official accrediting body) formally removes that approval.

As required, the law school notified us of actions taken against the law school's parent organization, Argosy University, by the United States Department of Education (USDE) and WASC, Argosy University's regional accreditor. Subsequently, we have remained in regular contact with the Dean and his staff. The authority and options available to us as the law school's accreditor are limited, but we are making ourselves available to assist as we can, including with respect to issues relating to the receivership and the disbursement of student loan money to students and to the law school itself.

Under our authority and rules, we can do two things: (a) commence a review process based on the information we have received that could lead to the removal of the law school's accreditation; or (b) require a law school to file a "teach-out" plan for the orderly closure of the law school. Neither provides a solution to the disbursement of your loan funds nor to the law school's ability to continue to operate. Because either of those actions by us would likely lead to the eventual closure of the law school, we will proceed carefully within the requirements of our rules. Unfortunately, responding to many of the calls made to our office, we do not have the ability or authority to disburse or to direct the dispersal of loan funds from the USDE to Argosy, the law school, or to you directly.

We will remain in regular contact with the school as it seeks to resolve the issues it faces, including those related to your student loans and a pathway that allows the law school to continue operating as an ABA-approved law school. We understand both the urgency of these matters and the reality that they will take some additional time to resolve. We suggest that you rely on the Dean and the administration of the law school to keep you apprised of all further developments.