

From: [Nick Ahrens](#)
To: [BOPC Board of Pilot Commissioners](#); [Garfinkle, Allen@BOPC](#)
Subject: N.Ahrens request for leave of absence
Date: Friday, April 18, 2025 9:36:13 AM

EXTERNAL EMAIL. Links/attachments may not be safe.

Dear San Francisco Bar Pilots Board,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to formally request a leave of absence from the San Francisco Bar Pilot training program, effective April 16, 2025. I respectfully ask that this opportunity remain open to me through the full 36-month eligibility period that began on December 4, 2024.

The primary reason for this request is that I have been invited to continue the selection process for the Puget Sound Pilots, a pilotage for which I previously tested and passed. I am scheduled to be called in the near future. As I approach what I hope to be the final chapter of my professional career, I want to give thoughtful and careful consideration to all available options.

Another significant factor in this decision is that the Puget Sound district is located in my home state. The lower cost of living and more accessible housing market make it an attractive option, especially as I consider starting a family in the near future.

I want to express my utmost respect and admiration for the San Francisco Bar Pilots. It has been an honor to spend the past five months in the training program, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity and experience. Should the Puget Sound position not work out for any reason, I sincerely hope to return and complete my training with the Bar Pilots.

Thank you very much for your understanding and consideration.

Sincerely, and respectfully
Nicholas Ahrens