A good board member is:

**Understanding**
- By being attentive to best practices the capacity of the organization is increased.
- By putting the best interests of the association before personal gain he or she is exercising the Duty of Loyalty.
- By differentiating between leadership responsibilities of board members and the management duties of the executive director.
- By showing up and making a contribution he or she makes a difference.
- By being engaged in strategic planning that mission and vision are key to success.

**Preparing**
- By reading the documents in advance of the meeting.
- By serving as the liaison from the board to other entities.
- By asking questions.

**Knowing**
- By being familiar with the bar’s governing documents and adhering to them, the Duty of Obedience is exercised.
- By exercising the Duty of Care that she or he is acting in reasonable and informed manner with good faith.
- By treating matters not otherwise in the public domain as confidential he or she is serving the best interests of the association.
- By visiting the Web site and reading the journal, newsletter.
- By understanding stewardship and the responsibility it entails.
- By respecting the difference between leadership and management.

**Representing**
- By delivering a 30-second elevator speech.
- By advocating on behalf of the association with members and the public.
- By building relationships as an ambassador for the association.

Prepared by the
ABA Division for Bar Services