COMMUNICATIONS WITHOUT FEAR

PRESIDENT’S PAGES AND SOCIAL MEDIA

FARRAH FITE
The Missouri Bar

@MoBarNews @FarrahFite
Who is @FarrahFite?

- Began as a TV news reporter and producer
- 16 years in media relations
- 7 years as Missouri Senate Communications Director
- 6 years with The Missouri Bar
- Manages @MoBarNews social accounts
- First state bar to be on Snapchat
A message is an idea that connects.
Always have a homebase
The Missouri Bar helps lawyers better serve their clients. We do that by providing education and business services as well as practice resources for lawyers. These activities are all within the scope of the bar and advance our charge by the Supreme Court of Missouri to improve the legal profession, the law and administration of justice for all Missourians.

HOMEBASE:

- Insurance
- Credit card processing
- Shipping
- Billing and time management software
- Payroll software
- ABA Books
- ABA TECHSHOW
- Service data destruction
- Editing software
- Retirement Planning

CLE Programs & Publications
- Leadership Academy
- Committees & Sections

Education

Discounts

Legal Research (Free or discounted)
- Fastcase (Free to active members)
- Criminal Instructions and Approved Charges (NEW! FREE!)
- LexisNexis
- Citcheck

Communications

Help Finding New Clients
- Connect MOBAR (NEW!)
- Publications (Precedent, Journal)
- ESQ e-Newsletter
- Useful Websites
- Social Media
- Lawyer Search

Services

- MO Bar 9th largest membership of 33 unified state bars, but only ranks 17th in total cost to practice
- Total cost to practice in a state ranges from $600 to $900
- MO Bar 9th largest membership of 33 unified state bars, but only ranks 17th in total cost to practice

Value

In the middle when it comes to total cost to practice compared to other states

Affordable for all

- It costs a little more than a dollar a day
- Includes funding for disciplinary regulation
- S111 a year to Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel
- S1.12 x 365 days = $410
- Includes helping provide legal representation for those who can’t afford it
- Younger lawyers get discounts on register at annual meeting for education only

Meetings

- Solo and Small Firm Conference
- Award winning
- Grew dramatically since started in 1996

Social gatherings to meet others and learn from others

Hear from Chief Justice at annual meeting

Awards

Replication elsewhere due to its value to those attorneys/firms

Helps those who face unique challenges

Get all needed MCLE credits in one meeting

Affordable for all

Social gatherings to meet others and learn from others

Hear from Chief Justice at annual meeting

Younger lawyers get discounts on register at annual meeting for education only
The Missouri Bar helps lawyers better serve their clients

- Affordable for all
- Includes funding for disciplinary regulation
- $101 a year to Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel
- Total cost to practice in a state ranges from $660 to $98
- than a dollar a day
- Get all needed MCLE credits in one meeting
- Affordable for all
- Help Finding New Clients
- Solo and Small Firm Conference
- Award winning
- Grown dramatically since started in 1996
- Replicated elsewhere due to its value to those attorneys/
20/20 Vision for the Future: Helping Missouri lawyers make sure their clients get justice

- Improving Access to Justice
  - Municipal Court Reform
  - The bar works to educate citizens about their courts to help rebuild the public’s trust
- Legal help for those who need assistance (free and/or discounted)
- Keeping our courts up-to-date
- Planning for the future of the profession
  - Economic
  - Legal Technology
  - Commission on Racial and Ethnic Fairness
  - Case management resources
20/20 Vision for the Future

It was almost 30 years ago—October of 1985—when I started my career as a Missouri lawyer. After wrestling over the decision of job offers in Kansas City and St. Louis, I accepted a job with the largest firm at the Lake of the Ozarks, in Camden County—the largest of the of counsel firms. I accepted a job with a five-attorney firm. They gave me my start, and introduced me to not only the practice of law, but also to service to the profession and the people of our state.

Within a few months of being sworn in, by Missouri Supreme Court Chief Justice Andrew Jackson Higgins, one of the partners in the firm, John Walker (a former member of the Young Lawyers’ Section Council and the Board of Governors of The Missouri Bar) steered me toward an election for an open seat on the Young Lawyers’ Section Council. From that day forward, I have spent a significant amount of my career serving the Bar and the citizens of our state, and encouraging others to do likewise.

I am so excited about the privilege and opportunity to serve my fellow lawyers as president of our great Bar. I really don’t feel that old, but my reflection on the practice is certainly beginning to date me. I hope my experiences during the past 30 years, and the institutional knowledge I have gained, will be beneficial to our great organization.

When I started practicing law, our firm had CPT word processors. There were no computers, no fax machines, and no cell phones. When fax machines were first brought into use, our firm decided we did not need one—that it would only force us to address problems faster and without an opportunity to carefully consider our advice. And besides, if it really became necessary, we could borrow the bank’s fax machine up the street.

How times and our profession have changed. In those early days of my career, a library full of books was a necessity, and it came at quite a cost. But the cost of a library was one element of earlier practice that caused lawyers to stick together in firms, which in turn helped to foster camaraderie and relationships. Today’s lawyers must forge new relationships, often without the benefit of the traditional framework of the firm.

Another thing that is changing is the speed at which clients expect or need results. I once heard an elder of mine say, in response to a client who was anxious to have his work completed quickly, that there was good, fast, and cheap, and that the client should pick two. With that said, our profession finds itself in challenging times. The LegalZooms and the Avos of the world appear to be here to stay. Accordingly, in an effort to meet client expectations, we often find ourselves striving to deliver all three—good, fast, and cheap. My hope is to help guide our Bar through these challenging times, to make a positive difference in our state, and do what can be done to improve and modernize our system of justice.

I am working with the other officers of the Bar, the Board of Governors, and our tremendous Missouri Bar staff on what we refer to as our “20/20 Vision for the Future.” This is, in essence, a five-year plan. In five years, we will be in the year 2020—hence the term “20/20 Vision.”

There are three areas in particular where I hope to make a difference in this coming year: 1) improving access to justice; 2) modernizing our courts’ work management and case management; and 3) modernizing our profession.

Improving Access to Justice

In this area, one of the obvious focal points will be on municipal court reform. My predecessor as president, Reuben Shelton, and Associate Circuit Judge Karl DeMarco from Scotland County—who is also the municipal judge in Memphis, Missouri—are serving as the Bar’s representatives on the Supreme Court of Missouri’s Working Group on Municipal Court Reform. I envision The Missouri Bar continuing to provide resources and information to the Missouri General Assembly to assist with the pressing changes that will affect our justice system, citizens, and state resources. My experience as a lawyer and municipal court judge has convinced me that, for a majority of our citizens, their confidence in our court’s judicial system is often derived from their experience at the municipal court level.

I believe we can also look forward to a bright future, but it will be through the active participation of all of us in our profession.
Embracing Change

Four weeks in and it’s time for the next “President’s Page.” Although I have been involved with Bar work since my career began, I feel a little naïve as I learn this responsibility is even greater than I envisioned. However, it has been even more fun and exciting than I imagined as well. Basically, being President of the Missouri Bar is, in my mind, the best job in the legal profession. Time is flying by and I’m afraid this new job (as with so many things in life as we get older) will be over before I turn around. I am so very much enjoying the work and privilege.

Throughout my 30-year career, Bar service has been a part of my life. I now find myself reminiscing over the past, considering the changes, and cautiously looking forward to the future. One of the newest changes is the closing of The Missouri Bar’s print shop. For as long as I can remember, the Bar has always printed all of its own publications. Like so many things in life, it has become much cheaper to outsource this part of our business, and in the end we will be able to produce a better product for less money, which will allow us to further stretch our resources.

We are in the process of consolidating some of the regular articles that appeared in other Missouri Bar publications into a new and improved Journal of The Missouri Bar. As part of this process, we also recently made the decision to cease publication of our quarterly publication, Precedent. Precedent was created in 2007 in an effort to offer members a practice-oriented publication that offered an alternative to the more substantive legal articles found in the Journal.

Approximately 7,000 of our members have been receiving Precedent, which cost the Bar around $25,000 per year. The Journal of the Missouri Bar, on the other hand, is read by more than 85,000 members, all Missouri lawyers receive it six times each year.

In addition, outsourcing the Journal will allow us to redesign the publication, which will include higher quality glossy paper and full color. Further, the substantive content that will continue to be featured in the Journal will now include articles that highlight practice management, member benefits, trends in the profession, and more, providing a more well-rounded publication. We believe the result will be a publication in which most members will find something of interest.

As mentioned, the new content will include some articles previously found in Precedent, including Professor Douglas Abrams’ “Writing it Right” column, an ethics column from OCDC, and a column from our executive director. Combining the more popular articles from Precedent into the Journal will not only result in a more robust publication, but will save a considerable amount of money while producing a better quality product.

One of the collateral reasons driving the decision to outsource our publications is the recent retirement of Dan Lehmen. Dan’s primary job at the Bar was, in essence, as CFO. He managed our finances and was the person who prepared our budget each year. However, like virtually every one of our bar staff, Dan had more than one job. He was also responsible for our print shop and its publications. Dan had a unique and rare skill set that included anticipating future printing needs and the ability to repurpose and retool old machines so they would last well past their normal life expectancy. Dan, as with all of our retired staff members, was a valuable member of the Missouri Bar’s team.

In closing, I want to thank Dan for all that he did for the Bar and wish him all the best in his retirement. I also want to thank all of our retired staff members, who have given so much to the Bar throughout their careers. Thank you for all you have done for the Missouri Bar and its members.
JUSTICE UNDERFUNDED IS JUSTICE DENIED

BY: ERIK BERGMANIS


Everyone recognizes the implicit truth in Dr. King’s words, but we lawyers should feel especially cognizant of their meaning. We are the gatekeepers of the justice system. By virtue of the oath we took, it is our responsibility to ensure that our justice system works on behalf of citizens both weak and strong. Without their faith in the rule of law and a well-run judicial system, there is anarchy.

In my first “President’s Page” in the September-October 2015 issue of the Journal, I identified enhanced funding for our state’s judicial system as one of the paramount goals for my term as president of the state bar. In that column, I particularly noted the inadequacy of many rural courts to handle complex litigation cases due to a lack of resources.

But it’s not just complex matters that strain our state’s judiciary. A recent case from the 26th Judicial Circuit illustrates the issue. In this case—which has received widespread media attention—a criminal defendant who had been incarcerated for six years while awaiting trial, and who had early in the proceedings requested a “speedy trial,” obtained a dismissal of the charges with prejudice because his case had not yet made it to trial.

“How could such a situation come to pass?” one might ask. While I am by no means an authority on the case, my own research indicates that this outcome resulted from what I will call a misapplication of the law.

When word of the dismissal was released, there was immediate public outcry and, as I mentioned, extensive media coverage of the matter. The nature of the crime committed—the horrifically violent rape of an infant child—added to the public emotion and inflamed public outrage.

My point in mentioning this case is not to take sides or to opine as to who was right and who was wrong. That is a matter for our courts to address. Rather, the issue of the dismissal of the case in question has been appealed to the Court of Appeals. Rather, my point is that this case illustrates the consequences of a judicial system that is inadequately funded, resulting in too few judges where they are needed, inadequate staff, and insufficient resources. When there is a lack of judicial resources and judges are overburdened to the point that generous, visiting volunteer judges are needed to move dockets and cases, public frustration is understandable.

For example, the 26th Judicial Circuit has two circuit judges for five counties stretching from Montiteau County to Laclede County. It is next to impossible for a circuit judge from that circuit to hear a case that lasts more than one week. What happens when a complex litigation matter—something becoming increasingly common in rural Missouri—is filed in one of those counties?

Make no mistake, more and more of these large, complex matters are being filed in rural Missouri circuits—probably as a result of the venue rule changes made in 2005. There is a lesson here for policymakers to bear in mind as they weigh legislative actions: the future impact of unforeseen consequences, including the cost of additional burdens on our judicial system and the limits it places on access to justice.

But it isn’t just the judicial process that is affected by inadequate funding of our courts. Our state constitution pledges that “the courts of justice shall be open to every person,” and in some instances, our physical court facilities are inadequate to meet this commitment. I am aware of at least one courthouse where a lawyer in a wheelchair cannot access the only courtroom in the county, which is located on the second floor of a courthouse.

Erik Bergmanis
BERGMANIS LAW FIRM, LLC
CAMBRETON
Talk about what you know
HITTING THE WALL:
FOUR STEPS TO RECOVERY AND REBIRTH

Dana Tippin Cutler

About 10 years ago, I was done with practicing law. I was ready to call it quits. I had hit the proverbial wall. I did not want to go around it, under it, or over it. I was happy to stay smashed against the wall, looking neither left or right. To do so would have meant I had to figure out what was next and at that point I was positive that whatever was next did not include practicing law.

Plain and simple, I was tired. I was mentally exhausted. The one thing they did not warn us about in law school is the fact that you are rarely able to completely stop thinking about the practice. Issues in cases continuously dance in the recesses and just below the surface of your mind. You find yourself thinking about work at all times of the day or night. You have clients who violate your personal boundaries and make unreasonable demands. The financial challenges wear you down and client development does not develop fast enough or at all.

If I could have just worked my files and gone to court, I probably would have been in nirvana. But the business of a small law firm began to overshadow and swallow me whole. So, how did I recover? How was I reborn?

First, I turned my focus to the business side of our office. I figured out the things we needed in the office to make things more efficient. We updated our billing systems and docketing systems.

We updated our computers, copiers and servers.

We moved our offices closer to our homes—totally wiping out drive time and crazy traffic.

Second, I took a real vacation with my girlfriends for almost three weeks to a foreign land. Third, a new area of practice found me. I moved, almost imperceptibly to me, from a strictly litigation practice to problem solving with charter schools and other not-for-profit entities. Before I realized it, I was a reborn lawyer with an updated office and a brand new practice area. My new practice was part blessing, but it was also me being open to my blessing and being willing to do something different, which translated into me learning a new area of law.

So, what is the takeaway?

1. Do not be afraid to say I am tired. Seriously, take a vacation—even if it is a staycation, get away from the daily grind. If you can take some time off, The Missouri Bar has a member benefit through Go Next to help you create your dream vacation at great rates. Remember, the world will continue to spin whether you’re there or not.

I was telling our fabulous Missouri Bar Executive Director Schrina Barrett about this period of my career and she was shocked: “You not be a lawyer? That’s crazy talk.” But it is true, and I suspect I am not the only one who has reached that point in their legal career and wondered why they should continue in this swirling mass of madness known as the practice of law.

Let me save off any gossip. It was not because of Keith (my better half) or Jim Tippin (my father and senior partner). They have been ridiculously supportive of me and my career. They have encouraged me at every opportunity to grow as an attorney. In addition, I have always had a cadre of women attorneys who have, at times, literally been the wind beneath my wings. I had the good fortune to have a great firm. I am grateful for them all.

I have a message for you. You are not alone and you are not the only one experiencing the strange and unique feelings of the practice of law. You are not the only one thinking this is not what I signed up for.

Go out and get real. I am here to tell you that your legal life is what you make it. It is all in your hands.
Just finished speech @SLULAW 2017 graduation. Shared personal epic #fails to send them into the 🎉. Lotta fun. @MoBarPresident @mobarnews
WHAT MAKES THE “BEST LAWYERS” THE “BEST”? 
(PART ONE OF A SIX-PART SERIES)

MORRY S. COLE

What makes the best lawyers the best? Over the next year this column will examine this question for all of us, which can have many different facets.

Some people say the best lawyers get the best results. We live in a results-oriented, what-have-you-done-for-me-lately world. Results matter! Many would rank lawyers among the best if they win, win often, and win big.

Some people say the best lawyers are the masterful researchers and writers. Clarity and persuasion in writing is important. Understanding, compiling, explaining, and arguing the law in a persuasive written format is key to being considered to be among the best lawyers.

Some people say the best lawyers are the deal makers—those who can bring parties together to close a win-win deal for all and further a synergistic result.

Some people say the best lawyers are the most articulate oral advocates. Oral advocacy is an art that is part talent, part gift, and part preparation. Only the best of the best speak with concise and persuasive clarity.

Some would say the lawyers who earn the most money are the best lawyers. They must be the best if clients pay that much for them.

Some would focus on the giving in our profession and identify them as the best. They would note that the many contributions by these attorneys—to both community and bar—elevate our profession and do much to promote the administration of justice.

Some would observe that the lawyers “in the trenches” are the best. Arguing detailed motions touching on constitutional rights makes a difference, for example, and protects our liberty at the most important level.

Suffice it to say, there are a lot of contributing factors to the perception that a lawyer is one of the “best.”

Now, having observed the above, stop... And think...

There is one commonality to every lawyer we know that is considered among the best—whether that person is a winner, a writer, a deal maker, an oral advocate, a rainmaker, a giver, or a deep-in-the-trenches lawyer:

The best lawyers are generous with time.

How many of the best work occasional weekends? How many of the best work past 5:00 p.m.? How many of the best spend extra time with clients? How many of the best runmate on issues that branch of government, the judiciary. Where do we see this “time generosity” in action? Look in any Missouri courthouse, at the judges and practitioners, and to our lawyer-legislators at the state Capitol.

When we look at our hard-working judges, we see dedicated and impartial arbitrators who routinely stay at their courthouses at night during jury deliberations or to prepare for the next day’s docket. They regularly call long dockets all morning and through lunch. They frequently draft orders, judgments, and opinions over weekends. And they find time to be active in our Bar. These efforts are examples of why Missouri courts are so well-regarded throughout the country.

Some of the finest examples of “time generosity” are found in Missouri practicing attorneys’ daily interactions. The practitioners in our courthouses can be seen huddling with clients, explaining the intricacies of weighty decisions. They routinely send an extra text to a client, or spend a few minutes visiting with the court clerk. They regularly do favors for opposing counsel, help a court reporter get equipment out to the car, or offer guidance to a confused pro se litigant. It is normal for practitioners to return phone calls at night or on weekends, to share their expertise by teaching a continuing legal education class, or to mentor a new lawyer. These actions by attorneys throughout our state elevate our profession. The “best” lawyers know these generous and kind acts build confidence in our lawyers, judges, and courts.

We also see “time generosity” in the efforts of our Missouri lawyer-legislators. Our lawyer-legislators routinely spend upwards of five months or more away from their families and their practices to serve their fellow Missourians in our state legislature. Without a doubt, their presence in the Capitol provides guidance and insight that helps ensure better drafting of legislation. In some instances, a lawyer provides direct knowledge of the law itself. At other times, he or she can still apply the legal skills learned in law school (critical thinking, reading and listening, applying the law to specific fact patterns, etc.) and the direct experience garnered from practice. Most importantly, a lawyer can promote awareness of the impact that a single misplaced comma or poorly chosen word might have on the life of every Missourian.

If we are inspired by these examples, we can take steps to be among the best lawyers in Missouri. Step one: Be generous with time.
Be Flexible
"Ferguson United"

Lawyers, many years from now, might chance upon this column and wonder what prompted the President of The Missouri Bar to discuss the activities of a small St. Louis suburban community of 21,000 residents and roughly 6 square miles. Future generations will likely question the importance of what happened in a wonderfully quaint Missouri town that is prototypical Norman Rockwell and known for a popular delicatessen created in a former train station. Our future barristers might think, “Tragedies occur. So what? They happen everywhere.” What is so special about this place?

The importance of Ferguson, Missouri is simple. What happened there in August 2014 is transformative and has the potential to change, in part, our nation’s judicial system forever. What happened in Ferguson has ignited a debate that is born from tragedy and sorrow but could lead to phenomenally positive cooperation and unity — now and for future generations.

On August 9, 2014, Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson fatally shot Michael Brown. Officer Wilson is white. Michael Brown was black. That event sparked a firestorm of protests and claims of racial insensitivity and discrimination. The up roar later continued when a grand jury failed to indict Officer Wilson of a crime.

Let me first offer my sincere sympathies to the families of Michael Brown and Officer Wilson. My family has been on both sides of that fence, and those families are suffering a horrible nightmare and emotional upheaval unimaginable to those who have not experienced the actual or effective loss of a loved one, especially under these circumstances. My heart also goes out to the citizens of Ferguson and surrounding communities who were the unfortunate, innocent victims of the violence and looting that resulted when opportunists took advantage of the situation and mined businesses and lives for gain.

Very smart, fair-minded people have taken positions on both sides of this issue. Valued members of our great bar association have strong opposing opinions about what happened with the grand jury process. The debate will surely continue — and that is fine as long as it is conducted in such a way that leads to positive needed change and does not bog down the discussion with accusations and innuendo that furthers nothing but finger-pointing and distrust.

But I am encouraged by the cross-sectional unity born from these unfortunate events. Groups that do not normally share the same space have teamed to resurrect neighborhoods and help residents bounce back. Previously unaddressed civic issues are now on the table.

Collateral issues, such as municipal court reform, were brought to light in the wake of Ferguson. Several municipalities such as the City of St. Louis have made changes and state legislators have introduced bills to reform a system that often puts citizens in a maze of relentless fines and penalties resulting from a simple traffic violation. Professors at the Saint Louis University School of Law and others are leading this change and I applaud their efforts.

The corporate community, including Monsanto Company, Emerson Electric and Boeing, has infused financial resources to help businesses recover. The Missouri Secretary of State is promoting forgivable loans to small companies seeking to restart. Community organizations such as the Urban League, Red Cross, United Way and Better Family Life have combined as a formidable force to help the community rebuild. This type of cooperation is not unprecedented but is truly an impressive display of corporate teamwork and community spirit.

But nowhere has the Ferguson outreach been more visible than in the legal community. Lawyers from across the state have volunteered their services to assist in the community’s mass tort and insurance claims.

Reuben A. Shelton
Monsanto Company
St. Louis
My Brothers' Keeper

A question that has resided in our psyches for hundreds of years was first posed in the Bible when God asked Cain the whereabouts of his brother Abel. Cain responded, “I don’t know. Am I my brother’s keeper?” (Genesis 4:9)

As lawyers, we have too often had occasion to ask that question as several of our brethren have chosen to end their lives. Unfortunately, on February 26, 2015, fellow bar member and Missouri State Auditor Tom Schweich gave us reason to revisit this question.

Are we our brothers’ keepers? I believe we are.

Anne Chambers, LCSW, very ably serves as the director of the Missouri Lawyers’ Assistance Program (MOLAP). Anne wrote a compelling article, “Depression in the Legal Profession,” that quotes Missouri Supreme Court Judge Paul Wilson. Excerpts from Anne’s article are below:

By Anne Chambers:

In January 2014, several articles brought concerns about depression and suicide in members of the legal profession to the national spotlight. In a CNN article entitled, “Why Are Lawyers Killing Themselves?” [the authors] noted that lawyers “rank fourth in the proportion of suicides by profession.” [Another article] noted that “according to age-adjusted information provided to CNN by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, professions with the most suicides are:

1. Dentists
2. Pharmacists
3. Physicians
4. Lawyers
5. Engineers.”

Patrick Krill, attorney and director of the Legal Professionals Program at Hazelden Addiction Treatment Center, responded to the CNN article with an opinion piece. He noted suicide is the third leading cause of death in the profession versus the 10th leading cause of death in the general population. He referred to “significantly heightened rates of depression and substance abuse” in the legal profession as a concern, indicating that “while not all people who are depressed commit suicide, a majority of those who commit suicide are depressed. Similarly, people who struggle with substance abuse are about six times more likely to kill themselves.”

The architecture of depression contains some cruel elements, including feelings of helplessness, hopelessness and worthlessness. It generates the impression that things are bad, will only get worse or at least not get better, and that not much can be done about it. Depression can darken thinking, suggesting to its victim that if you get help or let others know the depth of your concerns, perhaps others will think badly of you instead of offering support. The negative thought spiral is generated by the depression, serving to isolate the victim from reaching out and causing them to feel more alone. Depression does not go away on its own, and has nothing to do with weakness or lack of willpower. Those impacted often suffer in silence.

The truth is that most people who seek assistance for depression start to feel better in a matter of weeks. Reaching out for help from a doctor, counselor or other is an act of hope. Treatment can be game changing, and sometimes life saving. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention’s website at www.afsp.org provides information on prevention, warning signs, risk factors and what to do when you suspect you or someone you know may be at risk.
Be Creative
(working with bar staff)
Check out these numbers...

While the legal community continues to work towards diversifying the profession across the U.S., the statistics on these two pages show there is still a long way to go. As the definition of diversity evolves, we must create and embrace new ways to increase inclusion in our profession. Read on through this issue as we explore this idea, and as we highlight some of the SDCBA’s diversity and inclusion efforts.

GENDER

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ATTORNEYS

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SEXUAL ORIENTATION

PERCENTAGE OF THE U.S. POPULATION WHO SELF-IDENTIFY AS GAY LESBIAN, BI-SEXUAL, OR TRANSGENDERED

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LAW SCHOOLS

NATIONAL TOTAL JD ENROLLMENT 2012 - 2013

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RACE & ETHNICITY

ATTORNEY DEMOGRAPHICS

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LEGISLATURE

TOTAL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

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Source: ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, Enrollment and degree awarded 1963-2012, ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, Website Statistics Page.

Source: Congressional Research Service, Membership of the 112th Congress: A Profile.
Hello and Happy New Year! By the time you get this, 2016 will be well underway, but my first order of business as President is to sincerely thank you for being a SDCBA member this year. Each and every one of you contributes to the strength of the SDCBA and the greater San Diego community, and I look forward to all that we will accomplish together.

Speaking of accomplishments, ever since I was elected into this role, I've been asked by other attorneys, friends, and most often, my husband, “how will you get all of this done?” Well, being the Bar President, a partner at a busy law firm, and a mom to two boys takes a lot. I hope that in this column, I can give you a glimpse of my life and some insights into what this role entails. I'm looking forward to the challenge, and sharing my experiences with all of you. Thank you for the opportunity, and I hope you enjoy this “day in my life!”

**Friday, January 8**

7 a.m.
Drop off the boys at school.

7:30 a.m.
Mandatory Starbucks run.

8 a.m.
Review project files and start preparation of NMD proposal for Escondido project.

9 a.m.
Interview with Kyle Moran at the San Diego Union-Tribune/Daily Transcript Bar Presidency and plans for 2016 at Allen Matkins office.

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Conference call to discuss damage from recent fires to local property with General Counsel. Review and respond to emails; catch up on time sheets.

12 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.
Lunch with a specialty bar president and what seems to be the majority of the local legal community at Waters to discuss upcoming collaborations.

2 p.m.
Conference call with client and project engineer to discuss project permits.

3 p.m.
Phone interview with Pomerado News while en route back to North County.

3:30 p.m.
Call with client to discuss strategy for successful improvements and upcoming City Council hearing.

4:30 p.m.
Pick up Sam and Matt; grab snacks at the grocery store; drop off Matt for a make up soccer tryout (with El Nido)!

6 p.m.
Family dinner (pizza) and down time with boys.

8 p.m.
Adult fun time! 40th birthday party for Dan Greene at The Brickyard: gutter sheps, with bonus dodgeball. (My team took 1st place!)
Have fun
Dana Tippin Cutler @DanaTCutler · Apr 26
Mo Bar officers @ SCOTUS... look at all this freaking marble! @mobarnews
@MoBarPresident
Dana Tippin Cutler @DanaTCutler · Mar 31
I ❤️ lawyers...breaking 🍔 w/Leadership Academy in Springfield....@mobarnews @MoBarPresident
My personal tweetivation to all members of The Mo Bar to attend spring meetings in JCMO this Friday. @MoBarPresident @mobarnews
mobarnews Honored to receive the ABA Partnership Award today at #NCBP2017 for our #CourageousCollaboration initiative! The initiative, led by Missouri Bar President Dana Tippin Cutler, challenges us to confront our implicit biases to improve our workplaces. More than 500 Missouri lawyers, judges, law firm staff and court personnel have attended live Courageous Collaboration programming, led by Cutler herself.
Be consistent
Be positive
Listen
“He who fails to plan is planning to fail...”

- Winston Churchill