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Don't Miss Out! BLI Early Registration Ends THIS FRIDAY

If you haven't registered yet for the [2016 ABA Bar Leadership Institute](#), now is the time. The deadline for early registration—with discount—is Friday, January 29. Be sure to check out the updated program, which will show you exactly why Chicago is the place to be this March 16-18. While we're talking about BLI 2016, we'd like to thank those who are supporting this great event. Platinum Sponsors: Casemaker, Cuba Cultural Travel, Fastcase, and LexisNexis; Silver Sponsors: LawPay and USI Affinity; Bronze Sponsors: ALPS Lawyers Malpractice Insurance, Clio, and National Purchasing Partners. Thank you, sponsors—we couldn't do BLI without you!



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ABATECHREPORT Gives Expert View of Lawyers' Technology Use

Want expert analysis on how lawyers are using technology in terms of security, cloud-computing, mobile technology, virtual law practice, social media, and more? Look no further than the just-released [ABATECHREPORT 2015](#). As it has in past years, the ABA Legal Technology Resource Center surveyed lawyers about their technology use and then asked several noted experts to sift through all that data to pull out and bottom-line the trends we should all be watching.

Should Bars Manage Their Data 'Just Like Amazon'? Maybe Not

As the "killer app" that started it all (remember when you had to put on pants and leave the house to buy things?), Amazon is often held up as a model for other businesses and organizations to follow. That's true for associations, as bars and other groups try to get an ever more sophisticated grasp on their member data. But [a post at Effective Database Management](#) argues that associations can't – and shouldn't – aim to be "Just like Amazon." Why? Most Associations have a much broader array of data than even the biggest e-retail giants do.

Proposed ABA Model Rule Would Make Workplace Bias an Ethics Violation

Most of us would likely agree that discrimination in the workplace is wrong – and in some cases, it's illegal. A proposed amendment to the ABA Model Rules, scheduled for public discussion at ABA Midyear in San Diego, would make it an ethics violation as well. According to [an article in the online ABA Journal](#), proposed Model Rule 8.4(g) would prohibit harassing or discriminatory conduct "related to the practice of law." A comment to the proposed rule says this would extend to conduct in the operation and management of a law firm or practice.

Chicago Law School Helps Connect Low-Income Inventors with Pro Bono Patent Help

Lots of people have great ideas for new inventions. But how do you get that great idea out of your imagination and out into the world – especially if you don't have much money? The new Patent Hub established by the Chicago-Kent college of Law aims to connect low-income inventors, once their ideas pass a feasibility screening, with law firms and lawyers to help with intellectual property matters and the patent process. [Chicago Inno](#) notes that it's also a chance for law students to gain hands-on experience: Lawyers and firms can take on a student to help with the work.

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