

Issue 15, May 3, 2016

## Judge Fears Short Shrift for Access to Justice if State Bar of California Splits

What happens to access to justice if the nation's largest mandatory bar splits in two? And is fostering access to justice as much of a core purpose for a unified bar as its regulatory function is? Those are just two of the weighty questions being considered in the ongoing debate over whether the State Bar of California should become one agency for the regulatory function and another for its other activities. [Courthouse News Service](#) shares one judge's pointed criticisms of this proposal – and what the California task force can learn from another state bar's much-publicized deunification.



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## This Just In: The ABA's 2016 Lawyer Population Data

Want a bird's-eye view of the legal profession, based on the most recent data? Check out the ABA's recently published [2016 National Lawyer Population Survey](#). Is the lawyer population increasing or decreasing overall? In which states is it growing or shrinking the most? And what state saw its lawyer population increase by a rather staggering 22.6%?

## Nonlawyer Ownership and MDP: Not So Settled After All?

Is there any life left in the long, contentious debate over nonlawyer ownership of law firms? If there wasn't before, there is now: A 15-page "issues paper" released recently by the ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services lays out potential pros and cons of opening the door for lawyers to grant nonlawyers equity stakes in law firms or to practice in multidisciplinary partnerships with nonlawyers. The commission is considering asking the ABA House of Delegates for a resolution that would encourage state courts to move in that direction, says [Bloomberg BNA](#).

## 10 Questions to Help You Find the Best (and Not Necessarily the Most Obvious) Leaders

When choosing leaders, it may be natural for an organization to gravitate toward those charismatic extroverts and active "doers." You know – those members who seem to just naturally attract attention. But that's not always the best choice, says Dan Rockwell at his [Leadership Freak blog](#). If they're not necessarily the most outgoing, the boldest, or the best looking (!), then what do the best leaders have in common – and what 10 questions will help you find them?

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