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Supreme Court Declines to Rehear California Teachers' Union Case

After the death of Justice Antonin Scalia, Rebecca Friedrichs and some other teachers in California hoped the U.S. Supreme Court would opt to rehear Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association once a ninth justice was confirmed and seated. The case involves the proper use of dues or other fees in professions where union membership is mandatory, and has been closely watched by unified bars. What did the court decide last Wednesday? Bloomberg's Daily Labor Report has an update.


Over the past month, lawyers in several states have been startled to receive bar association emails indicating that they have committed disciplinary infractions or have not paid their bar dues. But it's all part of a "phishing" ploy in which scammers send fake emails that have links to malicious software (aka malware). How did this happen, and what should bar associations and members do about it? The ABA Journal offers some advice—and insights from the Division for Bar Services' own Molly Kilmer Flood.

Facebook Changes Its News Feed Again ... And It Could Be Bad News for Bar Associations

It seems like Facebook and Twitter are always changing something—including how easy or difficult it is for bar associations and other publishers (yes, you're a publisher) to reach their audience. In a big step toward "more difficult," Facebook announced last week that stories that appear in a user's News Feed will be prioritized according to whether a user's Facebook friend has shared the story, rather than by whether the user has "liked" the publisher's page and wants to receive updates. How big is this change? Even social media superstar Mashable is a little nervous about it.

Connecticut Adds Itself to the List of States with Mandatory CLE

In a move that has not been universally popular among lawyers and bar associations, state judges in Connecticut voted in late June to add a requirement of 12 hours of continuing legal education for all lawyers in that state, effective January 1, 2017. Connecticut was one of only a handful of states without MCLE, the Connecticut Law Tribune says, and previous proposals in recent years were defeated. How was this one different, and what, exactly, will lawyers need to do in order to comply?

Have You Read the July-August Issue of Bar Leader Magazine? You Should

The July-August issue of the bimonthly Bar Leader Magazine came out last week, and it's a real sizzler. Highlights include articles on how lawyer referral services are reaching today's legal consumer, on how bar foundations and associations are making it easier to donate from mobile devices, and on best practices in removing bias from the bar's hiring process. Check it out, if you haven't already!