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Texas-Sized Lawsuit Challenges DOL's New Overtime Rules

It's probably still best to brace yourself for the new overtime rules from the U.S. Department of Labor, scheduled to take effect on Dec. 1. However, 21 states and more than 50 business groups have now filed a lawsuit in the Eastern District of Texas, aimed at stopping the changes pertaining to exemption for certain white-collar workers. Are the changes an unconstitutional overstep that could lead to higher unemployment ... or a necessary protection against employers demanding excessive work hours? It depends who you ask, of course — Jess Davis at [Law360](#) fills you in on the lawsuit, who's on what side, and what they each have to say.



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Speaking of Lawsuits ... Can They Spur States to Increase Funds for Public Defenders?

If impassioned reminders about constitutional obligation, public good, and the rule of law don't move legislators to earmark adequate funding for indigent criminal defense, what will? Maybe a lawsuit against the state. According to Alan Greenblatt at [Governing.com](#), the American Civil Liberties Union and other groups have sued several state and local jurisdictions. The federal Justice Department has also stepped in, filing briefs in some of the lawsuits and providing grants to some states and localities. Which states currently have lawsuits against them ... and in general, does such a lawsuit lead to real change?

Bombshell at Clio Cloud Conference: Lawyers Bill Only 28 Percent of Available Work Hours

If you follow legal news on social media, you probably know that Clio — a provider of law practice management software — held its fourth annual Cloud Conference last week. Among the many facts and figures shared by CEO Jack Newton, one in particular seemed to make a lot of attendees' jaws hit the floor: that among Clio's 150,000 daily active users, lawyers only bill for about 28 percent of the hours they're at work (closer to 22 percent for solos). Where do all the missing hours go, and can better use of data help bring them back? Victor Li at [ABA Journal](#) shares what Newton said at the conference ... and how it blew up Twitter.

What Previous Experience Helps a New Board Chair Most? Being a Committee Chair

For a new board chair (or president, in the case of bar associations), you might think the most helpful prior experience would be a stint as chair of another nonprofit, government, or for-profit board. But you'd be wrong. A survey a couple of years ago by the Alliance for Nonprofit Management revealed that 81.74 percent of nonprofit board chairs said a previous term as committee chair was either "helpful" or "very helpful" in preparing them for their current role — and the other possible responses didn't even come close. At her [Laramie Board Learning Project blog](#), Debra Beck shares how this information changed how she thinks about committee service — and how you can harness its leadership-training power.

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American Bar Association | 321 N Clark, Chicago, IL 60654-7598 | 800-285-2221 | 312-988-5356

