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Comings and Goings: Tom Pyrz of Indiana State Bar to Retire, Maryland State Bar Announces New ED

Another pair of entries for your bar exec transition file: Tom Pyrz has announced a date for his retirement after 25 years at the Indiana State Bar Association, and the Maryland State Bar Association has selected Victor Velazquez as its next executive director. Pyrz will retire at the end of next year. Velazquez, currently the chief operating officer at the District of Columbia Bar, will succeed Paul Carlin, who is retiring at the end of this year after almost 32 years as ED. [The Indiana Lawyer](#) shares some highlights of Pyrz's career and his thoughts on retirement, and [Baltimore Business Journal](#) introduces Velazquez and what he'll bring to his new position.



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Let's Be Clear (and Brief): Effective Communication at Work

Are your emails and other messages at work often a "long read?" If so, you might not be dazzling readers with your grandiloquence. You might not have any readers at all, in fact — just a bunch of skimmers ... or deleters. So, how can you break your bad habits and consistently write messages that are clear, concise, and effective? "Corporate poet" Beth Nyland shares some tips at [ragan.com](#).

Florida Supreme Court to Lawyers: Now You Have to Get Tech Savvy

For years, bar associations and others have been sounding the alarm for any lawyers who are still in the days of WordPerfect, faxing, and "I don't have a website (or an email address)." Starting on January 1, lawyers in Florida will have another reason to heed the advice to move forward: Technology-related courses will be added to the roster of mandatory CLE, based on a proposal by The Florida Bar. How many courses over what length of time, and did the bar get any pushback from members regarding this proposal? [ABA Journal](#) has all the details.

The Missouri Bar Releases Its Report on the Future of the Profession

"Nothing changes but the changes, Slick." (Gary Busey to Kris Kristofferson, *A Star Is Born*, 1976.) With this quote, and another from poet William Cullen Bryant, The Missouri Bar opens its recently released [Future of the Profession Report](#), which addresses and makes recommendations in four areas: legal education and entry into the profession; leaving or limiting the practice of law; technology; and access and sustainability. What are some of its findings and recommendations for a profession that just keeps changing faster?

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