San Antonio Bar Association Announces June Moynihan as New Executive Director

Last week, the San Antonio Bar Association announced that its new executive director — effective immediately — is June Moynihan, who has been with the bar for more than two years. Moynihan, previously membership director and San Antonio Bar Foundation director, was promoted to assistant executive director at the start of this year. A post on the bar's blog highlights Moynihan’s accomplishments in her previous roles and shares the president and president-elect’s assessments of what she brings to her new position as ED.

Los Angeles County Bar Association in Heated Conflict over Possibly ‘Tainted’ Nominations

One of the nation’s largest metropolitan bar associations is now mired in turmoil: The bar was given the go-ahead to scrap its slate of nominated officers and trustees, but the potential new leaders say they’ll fight for those leadership roles. A state judge ruled last week that the bar may throw out what it has called a “tainted” nomination. However, in a lawsuit filed that same week, nominees and others claim that a minority of the bar’s board was unhappy with the election results and has used parliamentary maneuvering to nullify them. Courthouse News Service offers more details on what it says is the latest skirmish in a multiyear battle over how the bar manages its operations and spends its money.

State Bar of Texas Sunset Bill Sparks Debate over Religious Beliefs, LGBT Rights

Every 10 years, the State Bar of Texas (a unified state bar) is subject to a sunset review conducted by an agency affiliated with the Texas legislature. Last week, the debate over the current sunset bill became contentious. Some Republican members of the Texas House — objecting to an ABA Model Rule that is, in fact, not under consideration in Texas — pushed for an amendment that they said would preserve Texas lawyers’ religious freedom by allowing them not to serve clients who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. Some Democrats in the House countered that religious freedom is already protected and that the amendment would infringe on the rights of those who are LGBT. Did the bill pass the House — and with or without the amendment? Learn more at Texas Lawyer.

New EDs: Beware These 5 Traps That Can Bring You Down

Not to suggest that this will hold true for the current wave of new bar executives, but when an organization hires a new CEO or senior executive, there’s a 50 percent chance that he or she will be gone within 18 months ... and the cost of this disruption can equal 10 times the executive’s salary, or more. (These stats pertain to all organizations, not specifically to nonprofits such as bar associations.) Why do new execs often leave so soon? They may cite reasons like inadequate onboarding or a poor cultural fit. But the truth, writes Sabina Nawaz at Harvard Business Review, is that many new execs set themselves up for failure by falling into one or more “traps.” What five common traps does she identify, and how can you help your new ED — or yourself — steer clear of them?

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