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New Ethics Guidelines for Emerging Technologies

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Changing Technology Leads to New Guidelines from ABA, NYSBA

Is email always the best way for a lawyer to communicate with a client? No ? especially now that other, more secure methods are readily available. That's according to a formal opinion issued earlier this month by the ABA Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, which said lawyers should decide on a case-by-case basis what level of security is required and thus, which technology to use. Meanwhile, the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section of the New York State Bar Association released an updated version of its Social Media Ethics Guidelines, including information on how lawyers should respond to online reviews. What factors do the ABA opinion say should help determine whether email is appropriate, and what else is new in NYSBA's guidelines? Nicole Black shares more details at [Above the Law](#).

What Just Happened Here? 8 Ways to Get a Difficult Conversation Back on Track

You're going along, having a perfectly normal conversation at work, and then ? wait ? was that an almost invisible eye roll? Are you imagining things, or is there suddenly an edge in the other person's voice? People often have such differing communication styles, motivations, and points of view, writes Monique Valcour at [Harvard Business Review](#), that even a fairly straightforward conversation can sometimes take a negative turn that catches you completely off guard. Consider whether your own communication style is getting in the way, she advises ? and learn these eight techniques to help you get that difficult conversation back on track.

Survey Report: Big Law Partners Embrace Strategy, Resist Change

Great news: In this time of ever-increasing change, law firm partners are thinking and planning strategically. Not-so-great news: They're thinking and planning without fully understanding the environment they're working in ? and their managing partners and chairs aren't happy about that. In a recent Altman Weil survey of 400 Big Law leaders, 88 percent said their firms have lawyers who chronically underperform, and 65 percent said partners at their firms resist most efforts to change how they do business. At Bloomberg Law's [Big Law Business](#), Stephanie Russell-Kraft offers more insight on these and other key findings.

Membership on Your Mind? Check out the May-June Issue of Bar Leader

Do you have a membership-related quandary? Did you miss this year's ABA Bar Leadership Institute ? or just couldn't get to all the programs you wanted to? If the answer to either of those questions is "yes," then you're in luck: The [May-June 2017 issue of Bar Leader](#) is almost entirely focused on membership strategy, and it includes recaps of several great plenaries and breakouts at BLI. Find out what some experts ? including your peers at other bar associations ? have to say about getting, keeping, and fully engaging your members today.



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