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Ticket App Sues The Florida Bar

Ticked at The Florida Bar, Ticket-Fighting App Tikd Alleges Conspiracy
In the wake of the North Carolina "teeth whitening" case, many unified bars have grappled with whether some of their rules might leave them open to antitrust lawsuits. Now, The Florida Bar, four of its officers, the law firm Gold and Associates, and five of its attorneys are facing a federal complaint. A traffic ticket-fighting app company called Tikd claims that the bar is conspiring against it to support a competing service provided by the Gold firm, under the name The Ticket Clinic. At play are the bar's lawyer advertising rules and whether accepting a referral via the app violates them. Find out what both sides have to say at courthousenews.com.

ABA Initiative to Study Women's Exit from the Profession, Develop Strategies to Address It
Why do so many women lawyers leave the profession right when they should be advancing in their careers? Is it a lack of work/life balance? Unconscious bias? The pay gap? An initiative launched recently by ABA President Hilarie Bass aims to research those three theories and develop data-driven strategies to address the problems. The initiative is co-sponsored by the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession, the Center for Women in Law, the ABA Section of Litigation, and a number of law firms and financial firms. Read about the launch, and what will happen next, at abajournal.com.

New Podcast: ABA CoLAP Shares Voices of Recovery
As a new way to get the word out regarding addiction, substance use disorders, mental health issues, and how to get help, the ABA Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs has created a new podcast series called Voices of Recovery. New episodes will be released every two weeks, each featuring a lawyer who candidly shares his or her personal experiences in hope of helping others. In the premiere episode, Laurie Besden, executive director of Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers of Pennsylvania, shares her own story of recovery.

Wisconsin Bill Aims to Encourage Indigent Rural Defense Through Loan Payment
What's the best way to encourage new lawyers to represent poor defendants in rural areas? How about paying their student loans? That's the solution offered in a new bill that has been proposed to the Wisconsin state Legislature, as a way to address the fact that public defenders serving the state's rural counties are overloaded. Judges sometimes have to make as many as 100 phone calls to place an indigent defendant with a private lawyer, according to an article from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel?and some of the lawyers who accept those cases then must travel three, four, or even five hours. How would the two-year, $500,000 pilot program work, and how likely is it that the bill will pass?

Bar Leader Weekly will be on hiatus next week.