



Issue 92 | December 19

[New Execs in LA & Erie County](#)

## [Erie County, Los Angeles County Bars to Welcome New Executive Directors](#)

The new year will bring new executive directors to two county bars: the Bar Association of Erie County (N.Y.) and the Los Angeles County Bar Association. In Erie County, Anne Noble will succeed Katherine Strong Bifaro, who will retire at the end of 2017. Noble, a graduate of the University of Buffalo School of Law and a practicing lawyer in Connecticut for more than 20 years, was selected in part for her openness to innovation and creative thinking, according to [Buffalo Law Journal](#). In Los Angeles County, Stanley S. Bissey will become executive director on January 16; he is currently executive director and chief executive officer of the California Judges Association. Bissey is recognized as a proven leader and visionary, according to an article at [Metropolitan News-Enterprise](#), and leaders hope that his hiring will bring about positive changes after two contentious executive transitions in recent years.

## [New Study Reveals an Unexpected Benefit to Legal Help for Veterans](#)

It makes sense that veterans who receive legal help with housing, benefits, and consumer or personal matters will have increased income and decreased difficulty finding housing. But a new study found another benefit, one that may initially be a bit surprising: a reduction in certain mental health problems. The study, conducted by researchers from Yale and the Veterans Affairs New England Mental Illness, Research, Education, and Clinical Center in West Haven, Conn., found that veterans who received legal help via a medical-legal partnership experienced a decrease in hostility, anxiety, and paranoia. What does the study's lead author have to say about this finding, and were there similar improvements in depression and post-traumatic stress disorder? Find out at [YaleNews](#).

## [Santa Clara County Bar Opposes Recall of Judge in Stanford Rape Case](#)

When California Superior Court Judge Aaron Persky sentenced Stanford University rapist Brock Turner to six months in jail, many people were angry that the sentence wasn't longer—and some began a campaign to have the judge recalled. Recently, the Santa Clara County Bar Association Board of Governors heard arguments both for and against this idea and ultimately voted to side with Judge Persky and those who oppose recalling him. "If judges fear direct, personal repercussions as a result of their decisions in individual cases," the board wrote in explaining its vote, "the rule of law will suffer." [The College Fix](#) has more details on how the board made its decision.

## [Seven Changes in Thinking That Can Help Lawyers Be Entrepreneurs](#)

The traditional lawyer mindset favors being risk averse and very aware of the past—which leaves many lawyers ill prepared for the fast-moving, entrepreneurial way of doing business today, writes Noory Bechor, a former commercial lawyer who co-founded an AI contract review automation platform called LawGeex. And even for lawyers who believe a change in thinking is necessary and good, it can still be difficult to break old habits—as

Bechor himself found. At [LegalTech News](#), Bechor identifies seven tech-focused changes that can help lawyers embrace the future.

**Bar Leader Weekly will be on hiatus the next two weeks.**



Like Us on Facebook



Follow DBS on Twitter

---

[Learn more about the ABA Division for Bar Services](#)

[Read the latest issue of Bar Leader Magazine](#)

{{AA\_HTML Manual - Chicago Footer}}