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Issue 112 | May 29

No Love for Legal Apps?

Why Are So Few People Using Legal Services Apps?

A recent report sponsored by LegalShield seems to identify a real gap when it comes to legal services apps: Among the 91 percent of respondents who have smartphones, only 5 percent said they use legal services apps (such as those from LegalZoom, Avvo, and others) on their devices. And here's where it really gets interesting: 66 percent of mobile device owners said they would be at least somewhat interested in using this type of app. The percentages were higher among Millennials and people who have children living at home. How much higher? Find out at [Legaltech news](#).

Texas Bar Exam Task Force Recommends UBE

Earlier this month, a task force created by the Texas Supreme Court issued its report, including a recommendation that the state adopt the Uniform Bar Examination. In making its recommendation, the Task Force on the Texas Bar Examination, which was formed in 2016, said the UBE is useful for law graduates who might want to practice in several jurisdictions without having to take multiple bar exams. The task force did not recommend "diploma privilege," which would allow Texas law grads to practice in that state without taking a bar exam. [Texas Bar Blog](#) has more details, including a summary of the task force's other recommendations.

ABA Model Rule on Discrimination, Harassment Sparks Debate in Arizona

A model rule adopted by the ABA in 2016 pertaining to harassment and discrimination has hit a snag in Arizona and has met with mixed response in several other states. In Arizona, those who oppose adopting Model Rule 8.4(g) contend that the rule is too broad and would infringe on lawyers' free speech, while its supporters argue that the model rule is needed because discrimination should have no place in the practice of law. At [The American Lawyer](#), learn more about this model rule, the debate in Arizona, and how 8.4(g) has fared in the other states that have considered it or are currently.

Georgia Judicial Qualifications Commission Offers Informal Opinion on Judges as Bar Presidents

Is it a conflict of interest for a sitting judge to be president of a bar association or of a group such as a young lawyers division? Not necessarily, according to Georgia's Judicial Qualifications Commission, but a judge in this situation should adhere to several restrictions and make sure that the leadership position never supersedes judicial duties. That's the information that Rizza O'Connor, a magistrate and YLD president-elect, received via an informal opinion. O'Connor, who (as a YLD officer) sits on the State Bar of Georgia's executive committee, has shared this opinion with the rest of the committee because another committee member, Ken Hodges, is now running against a past bar president for the state Appeals Court. [Daily Report Online](#) offers more information, as well as the list of restrictions.

Deadline Alert! ABA Partnership Awards Applications Due

June 6

Is your bar association doing innovative work in the area of diversity and inclusion? Applications are due June 6 for the ABA Partnership Awards. This program celebrates bar association projects and programs directed at increasing the participation and advancement of lawyers of color as well as other underrepresented constituents: lawyers with disabilities, women lawyers, and lawyers who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. Awards will be given at ABA Annual Meeting in August 2018. Don't miss out! [Apply today](#).



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