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[State Bar/Metro Bars Staff Merger](#)

## [Minnesota State, Hennepin County, Ramsey County Bar Associations to Share Staff](#)

In the past few years, experts have been recommending that bar associations collaborate with each other in ways they might not have imagined before. The Minnesota State Bar Association, Hennepin County Bar Association, and Ramsey County Bar Association have decided to make a big move in that direction?by sharing one staff. The three will still be independently governed and will maintain their separate identities, according to [Minnesota Lawyer](#), but will share a single executive director and a combined staff once MSBA Executive Director Tim Groshens retires. Why do the presidents of the three bar associations call this "a great step forward?"

## [What I Did on My Summer Vacation: I Can't Remember Anymore](#)

With the increased focus on wellness for lawyers and nonlawyers alike, many people have realized how important it is to get away and unplug for a while. But if you come back from vacation and immediately re-enter the same pressure cooker as before?only with a thousand more emails and countless nagging tasks?the feeling of rejuvenation can disappear all too quickly. That's according to a recent survey by the American Psychological Association on work and well-being, writes Ernie Smith at [Associations Now](#). What organizational changes might be required, so the restorative power of vacation doesn't vanish like a summer breeze?

## [Six-Month Results for Big Law Diversity Rule: More Openness in Hiring](#)

About six months ago, 44 law firms adopted the Mansfield Rule, which is also supported by more than 70 corporate legal departments. The rule, named for the first woman admitted to the bar in the United States, says that at least 30 percent of candidates being considered for significant leadership roles, lateral openings, and equity partner promotions must be women and/or minority lawyers. One noticeable change for many firms in this pilot has been increased transparency in the hiring process. When might the new rule start to increase diversity?and what forms of diversity will be added to the "Mansfield Rule 2.0?" Find out at [Bloomberg Law Big Law Business](#).

## [Big Differences in How Universities, Colleges Manage New Florida Civics Requirement](#)

To meet a new civics education requirement in Florida, first-time students at state colleges will have to enroll with good scores on Advanced Placement exams in U.S. history or government, pass a college course in one of those subjects, or pass another test equivalent to a college course. Meanwhile, their counterparts at state universities can do any of those things?or they can score 60 percent or higher on a 100-question, multiple-choice, modified version of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' civics test. Why the disparity, and what do leaders at both types of schools have to say about this new requirement? Learn more at [Orlando Sentinel](#).



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