Farewell to Avvo Legal Services

Avvo Legal Services to Fold by the end of This Month
In response to a letter from the North Carolina State Bar, which asked how the company's fixed-rate legal services related to the unauthorized practice of law, the general counsel of Avvo's new parent company replied that this component of Avvo will be discontinued soon. The parent company, Internet Brands, says that this change is being made for reasons that have nothing to do with the question about UPL. ABA Journal has more details, including a list of some other states where bars and ethics boards have recently issued rulings regarding lawyer participation in for-profit referral services.

In Light of #MeToo, Are Most Workplaces Making Big Changes?
In a recent survey by Candace Bertotti and David Maxfield, nearly two-thirds of respondents said the #MeToo movement was a "healthy" phenomenon for the workplace. But have most workplaces made any real changes yet in their efforts to prevent and effectively respond to sexual harassment? While 56 percent of the respondents said there's been some improvement where they work, only one in three said this improvement has been anything other than small. At Harvard Business Review, Bertotti and Maxfield share more of their findings, as well as some advice on how employers can use the momentum of #MeToo to make some real progress.

Law Student Sues Florida Board of Bar Examiners over Character and Fitness
Many law students say they fear character and fitness questions that might subject them to extra scrutiny if they disclose mental illness or problematic substance use and their treatment history. Now, one such student, Julius Hobbs, is suing the Florida Board of Bar Examiners. After leaving the military and experiencing a breakup, Hobbs says he was suffering from anxiety and depression, and using alcohol to cope—but that he successfully sought treatment and is fit to practice. In court pleadings, the lawyer for the board said that it's dangerous to rely on an applicant's own assessment of whether their current level of substance use is appropriate. Read more from both sides at Daily Business Review.

E-learning Company Beta Testing Online Review Product for Uniform Bar Exam
Can online bar review be more effective than an in-person lecture? Yes, says Matt Sellers, founder and CEO of Quimbee—and his law school e-learning company is currently beta testing a Uniform Bar Examination study product. Rather than relying on reading assignments that may or may not be completed, the Quimbee tool uses video lessons and virtual flashcards with an algorithm and software based on a study technique of repetition at specific intervals. When will the product be released to the public, how much will it cost, and what else will it include? Find out at ABA Journal.
Learn more about the ABA Division for Bar Services

Read the latest issue of Bar Leader Magazine