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Making Miranda Rights Clear to All

ABA Initiative Helps Ensure that Spanish-Speaking Criminal Defendants Know Their Rights

Since 1966, police officers have been required to read all criminal defendants their "Miranda rights" to consult with a lawyer before they answer any questions. But what if there's a language barrier? Two new tools unveiled at the 2018 ABA Annual Meeting are intended to help police officers communicate these important rights to criminal defendants who speak Spanish. This initiative is led by the ABA Center for Innovation, the ABA Commission on Hispanic Legal Rights and Responsibilities and the ABA Criminal Justice Section; the New Orleans Police Department has done some testing and expects to move into an expanded pilot phase. The developers plan to expand to other cities and, in the longer term, to make the tools available in languages other than Spanish. The [ABA website](#) has more details about the initiative, including how the tools work and what other partners helped develop them.

How Is Life for Women in Big Law? Not as Great as Managing Partners Think

A recent ABA survey of more than 1,300 participants from the nation's 350 largest law firms revealed some sharp divisions between how men and women fare in Big Law—and also that managing partners' view of their firms as champions for women's advancement is not borne out by women's own reports of their experiences. For example, 81 percent of women who responded said they had been mistaken for a lower-level employee, as opposed to 0 percent of men, and while 71 percent of firm leaders said that law firms were doing a good job of promoting women into equity partnership, only 47 percent of women agreed. The full report from the survey, commissioned by immediate past ABA President Hilarie Bass, is expected in early September. As a preview, [The American Lawyer](#) shares some of the other findings that were released during the 2018 ABA Annual Meeting.

Does the EU's New General Data Protection Regulation Apply to Your Bar? Maybe

In late May, the European Union began enforcing the General Data Protection Regulation, a major revamp of EU privacy and cybersecurity laws. The GDPR applies to associations and other nonprofits as well as for-profit businesses—yes, primarily in Europe, but there may be implications for U.S.-based associations, too, according to [Bloomberg Law Big Law Business](#). For example, it could pertain to your bar association if you do either of the following: offer informational services or member benefits (even for free) to those in the EU, or engage in ad-tracking of your website visitors without excluding those from the EU. Find out what GDPR requires—and what could happen if an association doesn't comply.

ABA House of Delegates Approves New Membership Fee Structure, Including Some Big Reductions

It's no secret that the American Bar Association has faced many of the same pressures—and membership declines—as many other voluntary bar associations. At the ABA's recent 2018 Annual Meeting, its House of Delegates approved a revised dues structure (to take effect in September) in which most membership tiers will see a reduction of about \$100, writes

Ernie Smith at [Associations Now](#). Those in practice for less than five years will see their dues reduced by half, from the current \$150 to \$75, and the top dues level will be \$450, for those admitted to the bar more than 20 years ago. Another big change, Smith writes, is a website redesign that puts more emphasis on personalized content and a metered paywall. Learn more about what the ABA hopes to accomplish through these changes.



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