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## **Building the California Lawyers Association**

### **New ED Ona Alston Dosunmu Excited to Build California Lawyers Association**

"I think the best thing about heading up a new organization is you get to create its culture from the ground up," says Ona Alston Dosunmu, the first-ever permanent executive director of the California Lawyers Association. Dosunmu began in that role in January 2019, succeeding an interim ED at the one-year-old bar organization. At [Sacramento Business Journal](#), learn more about Dosunmu's background, her plans, and how she's rallying both staff and members to build something new.

### **Need a Big Idea? Put Together a Small Team, Study Says**

When it comes to innovation, sometimes there really can be too many cooks in the kitchen, according to a recent study that looked at the role of teamwork in making new scientific discoveries. Professors Dashun Wang and James A. Evans found that while large teams help advance and develop existing ideas and knowledge, small teams are critically important in disrupting it. At [Harvard Business Review](#), Wang and Evans explain how small teams help encourage disruptive innovation, how large teams squelch it, and how this might apply in fields other than science.

### **Denial of Lawyers' Student Loan Forgiveness Found 'Arbitrary and Capricious'**

Late last month, public service attorneys won what [ABA Journal](#) calls "an important victory" in a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Education involving student loan forgiveness. The lawsuit, filed in 2016 by the ABA and four lawyers, two of whom worked for the ABA, claimed that the department was "arbitrary and capricious" in making changes that resulted in the lawyers being dropped from the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia agreed; what will this mean for the lawyers in this lawsuit, and possibly for others who were denied or dropped from the program?

### **Indiana State Bar Association to Launch New Health Insurance Plan**

For years, because of a lack of affordable choices, many solo lawyers and those in small- and medium-sized firms either took a pass on health insurance or went on a spouse or partner's coverage if they could. That may change on June 1, 2019, when a new health insurance option from the Indiana State Bar Association goes into effect. The new plan uses the voluntary employees' beneficiary association (VEBA) model. The ISBA itself is the insurance carrier, with a healthcare tech startup company serving as third-party administrator. How did this plan come about, and how much could policyholders save on their premiums? Find out at [The Indiana Lawyer](#).



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