

Is this email not displaying correctly? [View In Browser](#)



Issue 159 | June 11

NYSBA Takes Innovative Step in Promoting Diverse Leaders

President of New York State Bar Association Appoints Diverse Leaders to all Committees

"It is a moral imperative that our profession better reflects the diversity exemplified by our clients, and we can no longer accept empty rhetoric or half-measures to realize that goal," wrote Henry M. Greenberg, in his first presidential message for the New York State Bar Association. Greenberg, a shareholder in the firm Greenberg Traurig, made a bold move in this direction, appointing a diverse chair, co-chair, or vice-chair to all 59 of the bar's committees. The bar will also develop and implement an inclusion plan during Greenberg's presidency. [New York Law Journal](#) has more details about NYSBA's efforts, as well as the diversity and inclusion work being done by the New York City Bar Association.

State Bar of California May See Big Increase in Bar Fees

For the first time in roughly two decades, the State Bar of California may be poised for an increase in its basic bar fee. At the end of last month, the California state Senate approved legislation to require practicing lawyers to pay \$535 in bar fees, up from \$383 (an increase of nearly 40 percent). This includes the basic bar fee and other fees, including a twofold increase in the amount lawyers must pay toward the Client Security Fund. This increase largely mirrors recommendations from the state auditor; the bill will now head to the state Assembly and then, if approved there, to the governor for signature. The bar initially proposed a much larger increase, but the state auditor recommended shelving some of the planned spending and spreading some out over multiple years. Learn more about the fee bill, and the bar's response, at [Above the Law](#).

Lawyer by Day, Bartender by Night? Legal Aid Society Hopes to Increase Pay

Whether by bartending, delivering food, or through some other means, up to a third of lawyers working for the Legal Aid Society in New York are moonlighting to make ends meet. Two-thirds of the society's staff attorneys arrive with student debt, sometimes as much as \$200,000, according to the president of the Association of Legal Aid Attorneys, in an interview with the New York Times. Officials with the Legal Aid Society are currently asking for a budget increase, according to [ABA Journal](#), which also highlights some related figures from NALP. How much is being requested, and how do salaries for legal aid attorneys in general compare with those in other forms of public service?

How Will Your Bar Mark the 19th Amendment Centennial? Share Here

Last week marked the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment, which gave U.S. women the right to vote, and the ABA Division for Public Education recently launched [a new web page](#) to kick off a year's worth of celebrations. Read a message from President-elect Judy Perry Martinez, keep up with important updates, and share news about what your bar is doing to celebrate.



[Learn more about the ABA Division for Bar Services](#)

[Read the latest issue of Bar Leader Magazine](#)

{{AA_HTML Manual - Chicago Footer}}