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Issue 174 | October 1

Building Better Bar Boards

New Board Catalyst Webinar Series Season Launching Soon

The ABA Division for Bar Services is thrilled to announce the launch of the second season of its Board Catalyst webinar series, designed to help your board govern collaboratively and courageously. Here is the lineup for the series:

- The Room Where It Happens: Building an Extraordinary Board | Vicki Clark | October 16, 2019
- Sparking Joy: Cleaning out the Bar's Cluttered Closet | Elizabeth Derrico | December 11, 2019
- Creating a Future-Focused Mindset | Jessica Birken | February 5, 2020
- Moving Your Board from Risk Management to Risk Leadership | David Renz | April 1, 2020
- Dynamic Chief Executive-Board Partnerships | Vicki Clark | June 3, 2020

Purchase a [2019-2020 season subscription](#) for access to all live and recorded webinars for your entire board or purchase individual webinars. Discounted rates are available for smaller bars. Visit our [Board Catalyst page](#) for full descriptions and registration information. Executive directors received a registration email this week; if you did not receive it or have other questions, please email [Joanne O'Reilly](#).

District Court Judge Dismisses Two Claims Against Oklahoma Bar Association, Allows One to Proceed

Earlier this month, in one of several recent lawsuits against integrated bars, Judge Joe Heaton of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma dismissed two claims in *Schell v. Gurich* but allowed one to proceed. The challenge that was not dismissed pertains to whether the Oklahoma Bar Association has adequate procedures in place to protect lawyers who don't want to subsidize certain bar activities. The Goldwater Institute is representing the Oklahoma plaintiffs and says it will appeal the dismissed claims. Among his reasons for dismissing the two claims, the judge said he agreed with the defendants that the *Janus* decision did not overrule or call into question either *Lathrop* or *Keller*. [Texas Lawyer](#) is closely watching this case, which is similar to one in that state.

State Bar of California Releases Findings of Survey on Access to Justice

Low-income Californians sought and received legal help with only 3 out of 10 problems that could have been legally actionable, with barriers of knowledge and finances often cited as the reasons that no legal help was pursued. However, among those who did seek legal help, 72 percent said they received or expected to receive as much help as they needed. Those findings and more are included in a recently released report from the State Bar of California, based on results of a survey conducted in partnership with NORC at the University of Chicago. What else does the [2019 California Justice Gap Study](#) reveal about legal needs among low-income people in that state?

Ohio State Bar Association, 5 Metro Bars Partner to Offer

Statewide Education, Testing for Notaries Public

Last week, the Ohio State Bar Association announced the formation of Ohio Notary Services LLC, a partnership among the OSBA, the Akron Bar Association, Cincinnati Bar Association, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Dayton Bar Association, and Toledo Bar Association. Last year, the Ohio General Assembly passed an act that changed the process for becoming a notary public in Ohio and permitted, for the first time, the online notarization of documents. Instead of a system in which each county had its own process, ONS will provide notary education and testing services for current and future notaries public across the state, as well as those who wish to add the new designation of online notary public. The [Daily Jeff](#) has more information about this new partnership.

New York City Bar Association Offers New Lawyers Free CLE, Ways to Connect More Deeply

The New York City Bar Association is making huge inroads with new lawyers by offering them free continuing legal education and promoting this benefit via social media?but that's not all. Another key to signing up 900 new members in approximately one year? Association leaders are committed to going to any law firm that will host them, to meet with new lawyers in person; they also actively seek ways to involve new lawyers so that what begins with CLE continues to full engagement with the bar. The CLE programming is free to new graduates, newly admitted lawyers, in-house/corporate counsel, academics, nonprofit lawyers, government attorneys, judges and their staffs. What do some new lawyers and others have to say about this approach? Find out at [New York Law Journal](#), in its "Survival of the Fittest" series.

ABA Launches Social Media Campaign to Highlight Rule of Law

The rule of law is central to our democracy and to other systems of government and justice around the world. But do most members of the public know what "rule of law" means? On October 1, the American Bar Association is launching an engaging public education social media campaign to help raise awareness. The [landing page](#) provides additional in-depth resources on the rule of law. In the first week, the campaign will run on the ABA's primary social media accounts, including [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Additional components will be added later in the bar year. Check it out?and help amplify the campaign by sharing posts and by using the hashtag #ruleoflaw.



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