Limited Legal Advocates in AZ

Arizona to Pilot Limited Legal Advocate Program to Help Domestic Violence Survivors

Starting this fall, Arizona survivors of domestic violence will have a new source of help with protective orders, housing, divorce, and other legal issues: The Arizona Supreme Court has agreed to sign off on a pilot project to train certain advocates who work with domestic abuse survivors to be limited legal advocates (LLAs). The LLA program was developed by students and professors at the University of Arizona; currently, advocates at a domestic violence center in Tucson often hesitate to tell their clients how to fill out court forms or provide other guidance that verges on legal advice. Learn more about how this one-year pilot was designed, and what its organizers hope it will achieve, at law360.com.

At Midyear 2020, ABA House of Delegates Approves Resolution on Regulation, Legal Access

On February 17, at its 2020 Midyear Meeting, the ABA House of Delegates passed a resolution on legal regulation and access to justice, after intense debate and some changes that helped clear the way. Resolution 115, sponsored by the ABA Center for Innovation and four standing committees of the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, encourages U.S. jurisdictions to consider regulatory innovations aimed at expanding access to legal services. An earlier version of the report cited U.S. Supreme Court Justice Neil M. Gorsuch, who has talked about easing bar rules to allow lawyers to partner or share fees with nonlawyers; this was removed from the final resolution and report. What were some other changes that helped turn the tide, and what were some arguments for and against the amended resolution? ABA Journal has all the details.

New Study: Mindfulness at Work Helps Teams Solve Problems Better

Mindfulness has been "hot" for a while now, and like any trend, it's drawn its fair share of skeptics. But recent research conducted by Boston Consulting Group and a mindfulness firm called Awaris suggests that mindfulness in the workplace can lead to a measurable boost in "collective intelligence"—a term that refers to a team's ability to accomplish tasks and solve complex problems together. The research involved measuring the collective intelligence of 31 teams at two different organizations before and after a 10-week mindfulness program. By how much did their problem-solving ability increase, and how did mindfulness help encourage the diverse perspectives and emotional awareness needed to get the job done? Find out at Knowledge[at]Wharton.

Freelance Lawyer Marketplace UpCounsel Announces It Will Fold

In an email that its founders acknowledged might come as a shock, the online legal marketplace company UpCounsel announced that it will shut down permanently on March 4. The San Francisco-based company, founded in 2012, provided freelance lawyers to corporations for anything from one-time consultations to regular staffing for a legal department. At LawSites, Robert Ambrogi shares full text of the announcement email, which includes guidance to clients on how to retrieve their data before shutdown, and
implications for ongoing legal projects.

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