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What's in the 2020 Clio Legal Trends Report?

2020 Clio Legal Trends Report: Lawyers Worried, but Things Could Be a Lot Worse

The annual Clio Cloud Conference was held last week, which always marks the release of the legal tech company's Legal Trends Report, compiled from user data. This year's report indicates that 2020 could have been a big year for many law firms, had COVID-19 not interrupted everything?and that the legal profession is weathering the pandemic surprisingly well. But that doesn't mean lawyers aren't worried about making a living and aren't having to make some big adjustments in order to get by. At [Above the Law](#), Senior Editor Joe Patrice combs through the report and highlights some of its most compelling statistics.

Planning a Big Virtual Event? Here's How to Keep Sponsors Happy

By now, many bars have held virtual annual meetings or soon will. While CLEs and other substantive programs may transfer onto new platforms fairly well, what about the "expo" area where attendees mingle with sponsors? That's been more of a challenge, according to Dave Lutz, managing director at Velvet Chainsaw Consulting. From the sponsor's point of view, Lutz writes, one hurdle is that different event organizers use different platforms, which means the sponsor has to build a new virtual booth for every event?or just use the meeting platform as a doorway that leads elsewhere online. As a result, many sponsors decline to participate at all. In [a post](#) on his firm's blog, Lutz gives several tips to help build an enticing digital sponsorship program.

Judges and Bar Leaders in Illinois, Pennsylvania Speak up for Judicial Independence

As the November election draws ever closer, lawyers, judges, and bar leaders are once again defending judicial independence. In Pennsylvania, nearly three dozen Republican legislators are backing a resolution to impeach Supreme Court Justice David Wecht on the grounds that four of his opinions usurped legislative priorities and breached judicial ethics. Voicing their support?and their belief that the resolution is motivated by politics and by disagreement with those decisions?are the state's chief justice, a district court judge, the chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, and the president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. [The Legal Intelligencer](#) has more information. Meanwhile, Illinois Supreme Court Justice Thomas Kilbride is facing what Illinois State Bar Association President Dennis J. Orsey calls "a well-funded misinformation campaign seeking to remove him from the bench." In [a presidential message](#), Orsey expresses the importance of judicial independence and directs voters to consult the bar's judicial evaluations and make an informed choice.

New Video: 10 Women Presidents of the ABA Highlight 19th Amendment, Importance of Voting Rights

To commemorate the centennial of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote, the ABA's 10 women presidents share their reflections in [a new video](#). In keeping with election season, the video also highlights the importance of continuing to ensure equal

voting rights for all, and a link directs prospective voters and poll workers to a variety of ABA resources.

New Program at Villanova Trains Students to Provide Legal Assistance for Asylum Seekers

Most asylum seekers have no legal counsel, which means they might lose their case simply because of a language barrier or unfamiliarity with the system and how best to express why they left their country and need to remain in the United States. This fall, after a successful pilot that ended in May, Villanova University's College of Professional Studies launched a program to help change that, by training students to become Department of Justice "accredited representatives." The program was started by law professor Michele Pistone, who was inspired to help immigrants and asylum seekers after a life-changing pro bono case almost 30 years ago. The [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) shares more details about this program and how it trains students to be something akin to a legal paraprofessional.



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