



**Issue 275 | November 3**

## **LSAT Scores Soar**

### **Emerging Data Shows Huge, Nationwide Spike in Median LSAT Scores This Year**

"Unprecedented" continues to be the word of the moment; this time, it's how one law school admissions consultant describes the nationwide increase in median Law School Admission Test scores among this year's first-year law students. Final admission figures won't be released by the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar until December, but consultant Mike Spivey has data from more than two-thirds of all law schools and says not one has reported a drop in their median LSAT score. So far, the biggest reported jump has been four points at Lewis & Clark; six law schools have reported three-point increases, and 42 schools have reported two-point increases. Median LSAT scores rarely change by more than a point from one year to the next, according to [Reuters](#); what are some of the factors that have made this year so different?

### **Clio Cloud Conference and 2021 Legal Trends Report: Shift to Remote Legal Services Likely Here to Stay**

What a difference three years and a global pandemic can make: When legal technology company Clio surveyed American consumers in 2018, 23 percent said they would be open to working with a lawyer remotely, but in 2021, 79 percent said a remote option would have a positive influence on their decision to hire a particular lawyer. Also, in 2018, only 4 percent of consumers said they preferred to communicate through videoconferencing at any stage within a legal matter, but in 2021, more than 50 percent of respondents said they strongly preferred using videoconferencing across multiple stages of a legal matter. CEO and co-founder Jack Newton shared these statistics from the company's 2021 Legal Trends Report at last week's Clio Cloud Conference. "The idea of a bricks-and-mortar law office being the primary place that lawyer-client interactions happen is gone?and gone for good," Newton said in his keynote address. [ABA Journal](#) shares more highlights from the conference and from the report.

### **3 Ways to Make Sure all Staff Know About Your Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts**

If you have an internal diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) program or initiative, but a large portion of your staff doesn't know about it, how effective can it really be? In recent research by consulting firm Avenue M Group, one in five respondents said they didn't know whether their organization had such a program or initiative pertaining to staff, and entry- or mid-level staff members were more likely to give this response than high-level employees were. Why does this disconnect matter, and what can organizations do to fix it? In a [downloadable report](#) (in exchange for name, organization, and email address), Avenue M offers additional details and three tips.

### **Washington State Bar Association Working Group Releases Simple Checklist to Help Consumers with COVID-19 Legal Needs**

To address the ways that the pandemic has created and exacerbated gaps in access to civil

legal help, the Washington State Bar Association has developed the COVID-19 Legal Needs Checklist to help people learn whether their problem requires legal services, and if it does, how to obtain those services. The checklist was produced by the COVID-19 Response Work Group established in 2020 by the WSBA Access to Justice Board, in collaboration with that board's Delivery of Services Committee. The checklist is available in 32 languages. Because of barriers faced by many people who need this information, the working group focused on creating a simple checklist that was easy to distribute as hard copies and to read online, rather than on a more complicated online tool. The WSBA publication [NWSidebar](#) has a link to the checklist, as well as information about what other organizations played a role in creating it.



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