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Future of the LSAT?

Should Law Schools, Like Schools for Comparable Professions, Be Allowed to Go Test Optional?

Suppose someone with a wide range of career interests wants to apply to accredited schools of law, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, business and architecture. How many standardized tests will this person have to take? Depending on which specific schools she applies to, the answer may be just one: the LSAT. While institutions that provide education toward other professional fields may choose to require the GRE or a more specific standardized entrance exam, among these schools, law schools are alone in having this requirement as a condition of accreditation. That may soon change, as the ABA Council on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar is considering a proposal that would allow ABA-accredited law schools to choose whether they still want to require a "valid and reliable admission test" (usually the LSAT, though many now accept the GRE). What's at stake in this decision? At [Reuters](#), legal industry observer Jenna Greene examines the arguments for and against this proposal and offers her own take.

Idaho Supreme Court Surveys Idaho State Bar Members to Learn Why So Few Apply to Be Judges

In Idaho, judges are elected, but applicants are needed to fill judgeships between elections. While magistrate judge positions are easier to fill, only four or five people typically apply for each district judge position—and they tend to be younger and less experienced. To find out why, the Idaho Supreme Court recently surveyed 5,700 members of the Idaho State Bar, about 28% of whom responded. Among those respondents, almost 70% said they were interested in being a judge, but only 21% had applied. When respondents were asked to name their concerns about applying for judicial positions, the three most frequently mentioned were the judicial selection process (16.04%), the increasingly polarized political environment (12.13%), and a biased selection process (10.08%). What were some of the other concerns cited, how did respondents rank them in importance, and what types of bias did they note in the selection process? Find out at [ABA Journal](#).

Don't Fear the Dues Increase: 3 Tips to Make It Easier for Members and for You

The dues increase: Many membership organizations dread it and try to put it off as long as possible, thinking their members will be upset by it. But association membership and marketing consultant Chris Vaughan says organization staff and leaders are much more "worked up" over dues increases than most members are, and taking this step is "the best financial decision you can make." Every dollar of an incremental dues increase goes right to the bottom line, growing revenue without generating new cost, he explains—and members should expect to pay fairly for the value they receive. If the time has come (or it's been time for a while now), how can you increase dues with as little blowback as possible? In a post for his company [Sequence Consulting](#), Vaughan shares three tips that can help make a dues increase more palatable to members—and less frightening for you.

Pennsylvania's 3 Largest Bars File Amicus Brief Supporting Professional Rule Against Harassment,

Discrimination

Last week, the Pennsylvania Bar Association, Philadelphia Bar Association and Allegheny County Bar Association (the three largest bars in Pennsylvania) jointly filed an amicus brief in support of implementing Rule 8.4(g) of the state's Rules of Professional Conduct. This rule, which a U.S. District Court judge decided was unconstitutional in March 2022, prohibits a lawyer, in the practice of law, from knowingly engaging in harassment or discrimination based upon race, gender, religion, disability and other protected characteristics. The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania recently appealed that decision to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. The Pennsylvania Interbranch Commission for Gender, Racial and Ethnic Fairness also is a signatory to the amicus brief. A [Pennsylvania bar news item](#) has more details, including statements from the bars' presidents and chancellor, and a link to the amicus brief.

In Person October 20-22: Registration for the 2022 National Lawyer Referral Workshop Now Open

Join leading lawyer referral experts, scholars and practitioners from across North America at the NOPSI Hotel in New Orleans, October 20-22, for the return to an in-person National Lawyer Referral Workshop! At this event from the ABA Standing Committee on Lawyer Referral and Information Service, experts will address best practices, regulatory updates, marketing, and key takeaways for future operations. Hear from Program of Assistance and Review (PAR) consultants, learn about ABA Free Legal Answers, participate in networking events and much, much more! Need some training, too? Want to learn more about the day-to-day operations of a lawyer referral service? Join experienced program directors for Nuts & Bolts training on October 19. For more information, contact [Shawna Miller](#).



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