

# BUSINESS LAW TODAY

## Information for Contributors

### Editorial Policy

*Business Law Today* is a magazine for lawyers who mean business. Any aspect of the law related to the world of business and finance is embraced between our covers: from banking to bankruptcy, from the SEC to the FTC, from trademarks to trusts, from corporate counsel to much more. Our territory is not limited to substantive law; we'll also provide tips to sharpen your practice and keep it current as well as features on what it means to be a business lawyer today.

Much of the publication is written by business lawyers with a clear-cut goal: to pass along the knowledge and views of those who are willing to put their thoughts to paper, and do it well. We aim to be informative, entertaining, provocative, and on-target. *Business Law Today* is not a law review; the subjects are serious, but we strive to give the articles some life.

The Business Law Section of the American Bar Association publishes the online magazine monthly for a national audience. The ideas expressed are those of the individual writers and are not necessarily shared by the Section or the ABA.

### Criteria for Publication

The *Business Law Today* Editorial Board reviews all articles for accuracy of law, quality of writing, and consistency with *BLT* guidelines and tone. Manuscripts cannot have been published elsewhere, except in firm client alerts.

Because *BLT* strives for accessible, informative, and easy-to-comprehend content, articles should use a three-part structure consisting of (1) a clear, short introduction presenting a thesis; (2) a discussion that progresses in a well-thought-out,

linear manner; and (3) a solid conclusion.

*Business Law Today* publishes articles that discuss a statute or statutory scheme concept by concept, not section by section and does not discuss a large number of cases back-to-back. Articles should give practical examples of how to apply the legal concepts being discussed. Do not use footnotes or endnotes or string cites. Place citations in the text and limit them only to the decisions or legislation being discussed. Hyperlinks to legislation and lengthy reports are acceptable.

*Business Law Today* publishes articles under two rubrics: feature articles and departments (sometimes called columns).

**Feature articles:** Feature articles should be direct and conversational, and run about 4,000 words in length. Article topics may include substantive legal issues or practice management issues.

**Departments:** Departmental articles run between 750 and 1,500 words. The departments are:

- **Keeping Current:** recent developments in the law with analysis
- **Delaware Insider:** recent trends in Delaware business law
- **Focusing on Pro Bono:** pro bono efforts by business lawyers
- **Ethics Corner:** ethical issues affecting business lawyers
- **Speaking Volumes:** one-page book review
- **Training for Tomorrow:** practical guidance for young business lawyers and students

## **Submission Requirements**

*Business Law Today* requests that contributors comply with the following standards.

Manuscripts should be sent as Word documents, and usually should not exceed 4,000 words in length. Headlines should be concise and direct. Manuscripts should not include footnotes or endnotes—all citations should be incorporated into the running text.

All submissions should be accompanied by author contact information and should include a brief, one- to two-sentence author biography. Links to the bio pages on the author's firm's website (or to other biographic webpages such as LinkedIn) may be included. Submissions should also be accompanied by a short abstract of the article. The abstract should be at most two sentences long (roughly 25 words) and help the reader quickly understand the scope of the material. Please also include two or three

general keywords to enhance Internet searchability.

Collateral material—such as definitions of technical terms, the text of relevant statutes, list of resources, or pertinent web addresses—should be placed in “sidebar” discussions accompanying the main article.

Manuscripts by student authors will not be considered unless coauthored with a professor or practitioner.

Please **e-mail** your submission to Rick Paszkiet Manager, Content Development, at [rick.paszkiet@americanbar.org](mailto:rick.paszkiet@americanbar.org).

## **Publication Agreement**

Authors are asked to sign a publication agreement. The Production Associate will furnish the ABA Publication Agreement to authors.