ABA to Celebrate Pro Bono

The ABA's Center for Pro Bono has announced plans for its first-ever National Pro Bono Celebration. The event, scheduled for October 25-31, 2009, will "celebrate the difference lawyers make in communities" and be used to recruit and train pro bono volunteers. The committee has created a Web site for the event. Visitors can sign up for a mailing list and register to participate.

The event is intended to complement instead of replace existing pro bono celebrations. The committee will release a program guide in the next few months.

For more information, e-mail Steve Scudder.

Commission Campaigns for All States to Keep Elders in Good Hands

An ABA Commission is asking help to get states to cooperate on how to handle the elderly.

The Commission on Law and Aging is seeking "stories" of problems faced by adult guardians – people or groups that make decisions for an incapacitated, often elderly, adult – when multiple states are involved. The stories will be used in the commission's Joint Campaign for Uniform Jurisdiction, an effort to persuade states to adopt an act approved in 2007 by the ABA's Uniform Law Commission.

According to a press release, the lack of clear rules on interstate guardianship can tie up courts, inflame family conflict, and even allow for elder abuse. The act sets out standard procedures for multi-state adult guardianship cases, such as when the dependent owns property in several states. But, the release notes, the act will work only if most states adopt it.

Besides stories, the campaign includes a Web site, online clearinghouse, national Webcast, and printed materials. To submit a story, send an e-mail to guardianshipjurisdiction@americanbar.org.

Law Day 2009 Theme Announced

The Division for Public Education has announced *A Legacy of Liberty: Celebrating Lincoln's Bicentennial* as the theme for Law Day 2009. Visit www.lawday.org for updates or to join the Law Day listserv.
Awards

Georgia Bar Wins ABA YLD Award
The State Bar of Georgia is among two winners of the ABA's 2007-08 Awards of Achievement. The bar won for its Model Juvenile Code Project. The Texas Young Lawyers Association was also honored, for the project Safeguarding Our Seniors.

For more on the award and a complete list of winners, click here.

New Award to Honor Out of the Box Fundraising
NCBF and ALPS Foundation Services have created a new award for creative fundraising. The award will be presented annually, beginning with NCBF's 2009 Midyear Meeting in Boston this February. The winner will receive $1,000 and may apply for financial assistance to attend the meeting, if needed.

The application deadline is October 15. For more on the award and to apply, visit www.ncbf.org.

For Your Members
Nomination Open for Women Lawyers Award
The ABA Commission on Women in the Profession is accepting nominations for its 19th Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award. The award honors five women lawyers who have achieved professional excellence and actively paved the way to success for other women lawyers. The award will be presented in August 2009 at the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago.

The nomination deadline is November 25. For more on the award, including the nomination form, click here.

Commission on Women to Celebrate 20th Anniversary with Contest
Most 20-year-olds are just starting to look for their purpose. The Commission on Women wants to know if its purpose has been accomplished.

The commission is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a competition to decide whether full gender diversity has been achieved and, if not, how it can be. Law students and young lawyers (lawyers under 36 years old or admitted to practice for less than five years) are invited to submit YouTube video and essay entries making their argument. Four winners will receive $500 each.

The submission deadline is December 31. For more information, click here.

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Resources

New Newsletter Gives Bars More Responsibility
The ABA's Center for Professional Responsibility has created its own newsletter for state and local bars. The newsletter will be released the same time as The Bridge and report on new ABA model rules and state rules on ethics, and other news from the center. The first edition is here.

The center is at least the fourth ABA group to produce a newsletter for bar associations, besides this publication, the Division for Media Relations' bi-monthly Bar Leader Toolkit, and the Division for Legal Services' Legal Services Now.
2008 ABA Legal Technology Survey Report
It's here, and it's exhaustive. The ABA's Legal Technology Resource Center has published its 2008 Legal Technology Report, a six-volume reference on the technology habits of ABA members in private practice. The report includes several statistics related to bar associations, such as 36% of respondents use their state or local bar's journal as their main printed reference on legal technology – the second most-used source, behind only the *ABA Journal*.

The report can be purchased as a whole for $1800 or by volume for $350 each, with an executive summary available for $300. Prices are reduced for ABA members. Bar associations receive an additional discount by contacting the center directly at ltrc@abanet.org or (312) 988-5465. All versions of the report are available as downloadable PDFs.

New Election Resources
The Division for Public Education and Standing Committee on Election Law have launched a Web site with voting information and resources. The site includes a section for trial judges hearing election law disputes (right column, second box), that includes an election law manual and state-by-state election law statutes.

The Division for Public Education has also posted a site on the electoral process. Originally created for Constitution Day on September 17, the site is geared to students and teachers and includes lesson plans, conversation starters, and contests.

ALPS to Host Fundraising Teleconference
ALPS Foundation Services has announced a three-part teleconference series on fundraising. The first part, on online donations, will be September 25. Parts two and three will cover how to create a fundraising plan and using emotional appeal to raise funds. For more on the conference and to register, click here.

Publications
Each publication listed, unless otherwise noted, can be ordered from the ABA Web Store, or by calling the ABA Service Center at (800) 285-2221 and referencing its product code. Click any publication cover to open its Web store page.
The latest issue of Legal Services Now, newsletter of the ABA Division for Legal Services, is now online.

Upcoming Meetings

9/24 - 9/27/08
ABA Section of Business Law Business Bankruptcy Fall Meeting
Scottsdale, AZ | JW Marriott
Contact: Marcia Yarbrough

9/25 - 9/28/08
Antitrust Masters Course IV
Hot Springs, VA | The Homestead
Contact: Patricia Harris

10/2 - 10/3/08
Civil Remedies for Human Trafficking Victims CLE
Minneapolis, MN
Contact: Amanda Kloer

10/2 - 10/4/08
ABA YLD Fall Conference
San Diego | Westin Gaslamp Quarter
Contact: Bill Stanton

10/2 - 10/4/08
GPSolo Fall Meeting and National Solo & Small Firm Conference
Santa Fe, NM | Hotel Santa Fe
Contact: Laura Ramirez

10/2 - 10/5/08
ABA Section of Family Law Fall CLE Conference
Scottsdale, AZ | Camelback Inn
Contact: Carrie Asalon

10/12 - 10/17/08
International Bar Association Annual Conference 2008
Buenos Aires, Argentina | Sheraton Buenos Aires Hotel & Convention Center
Contact: International Bar Association

10/15 - 10/18/08
2008 National Lawyer Referral Workshop
Garden Grove, CA | Crowne Plaza Resort Anaheim
Contact: Jane Nosbisch

10/17 - 10/18/08
Mergers and Acquisitions
Carlsbad, CA | Four Seasons Resort Aviara
Contact: Donna Nesbit

10/17 - 10/19/08
ABA Women Rainmakers Mid-Career Workshop
Tucson, AZ | Westin La Paloma
Contact: Jasamyn Benedict
10/19 - 10/21/08
ABA/ABA Money Laundering Conference
Washington, DC | Marriott Wardman Park Hotel
Contact: Robert Snoddy

10/21 - 10/24/08
National Conference for Lawyer Assistance Programs
Little Rock, AR
Contact: Janice Jones

10/22 - 10/25/08
NABE Communications Section Workshop
Austin, TX | Hyatt Regency Austin
Contact: Holly Wilkerson

10/23/08
Live From the SEC: International Videoconference, Teleconference and Webcast
Contact: Jenny Abreu

10/24/08
Criminal Justice Section Fall Conference: Sentencing Advocacy, Practice and Reform Institute
Washington, DC | George Washington University
Contact: Robert Snoddy

11/6 - 11/7/08
ABA International and IBA: "The Next Big Wave of Cross-Border Litigation"
Miami | The Biltmore Hotel
Contact: Jenny Abreu

11/13 - 11/14/08
Antitrust Fall Forum
Washington, DC | National Press Club
Contact: Patricia Harris

4/14 - 4/18/09
ABA International Spring Meeting
Washington, DC | The Fairmont
Contact: Jenny Abreu

May/June 2009
Global Environmental Structures: Thinking Past Gridlock to Create a Sustainable Future
Vancouver, BC
Contact: Elissa Lichtenstein

10/1 - 10/3/09
Law-Related Education Leadership Conference
Chicago
Contact: Tiffany Willey

For an expanded list of upcoming, bar-related meetings, visit our Calendar of Key Meetings.

Comments?
Blogging
In this third edition of Legal Technology Corner, LTRC Research Specialist Tonya Johnson breaks down blogging.

Bulk Discount
Almost 10% of voluntary state bars, 7% of major local bars and 3% of small local bars (under 300 members) offer some type of discount on membership dues to law firms in which all attorneys are members of the bar association. Order the Dues Survey.

Creating the Future
If your association or foundation aims to change the world by providing legal services or law-related education to the poor, this blog from nonprofit expert Hildy Gottlieb will inspire and help you.

- Elizabeth Derrico

73 Ways to Win: A Treasury of Litigation Tactics and Strategies
$125
Published by the ABA Center for CLE, Section of Litigation
Product code V01STWD
73 ways to improve your trial practice, with suggestions that you can use from the beginning of the case through the appeal.

The ABA Complete Personal Legal Guide - The Essential Reference for Every Household
$22.95
Published by the Division for Public Education
Product code 2350246
Easy-to-digest, comprehensive legal information every household needs

Attacking Adverse Experts
$165
Published by the Section of Litigation
Product code 5310378
A step-by-step guide to investigating, evaluating, and attacking the adverse expert in civil cases

Being Prepared: A Lawyer's Guide for Dealing with Disability or Unexpected Events
$104.95
Published by the General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Division
Product code 5150423
A workbook and guide for protecting your law practice against casualty or other unexpected event

Crafting the Winning Argument (DVD Package)
$195
Published by the ABA Center for CLE, Section of Litigation
Product code V02CTWD
Three experienced trial lawyers explain how to develop a persuasive argument, delivered in an appealing way
Electronic Evidence: Law and Practice, Second Edition  
$120  
Published by the Section of Litigation  
Product code 5310375  
Explores the range of problems encountered with electronic communications from discovery to trial, and offers practical solutions.

Ethical Standards in the Public Sector, Second Edition  
$89.95  
Published by the Section of State and Local Government Law  
Product code 5330201  
A clear overview of many of the complexities of public sector ethics.

Fair Measure: Toward Effective Attorney Evaluations, Second Edition  
$69.95  
Published by the Commission on Women in the Legal Profession  
Product code 4920043  
Outlines a step-by-step process for implementing and conducting performance evaluations that are free from bias.

Issues in Competition Law and Policy  
$550  
Published by the Section of Antitrust Law  
Product code 5030522  
A complete and detailed perspective on issues in the design and enforcement of competition law.

McElhaney on Cross Examination (CD Package)  
$125  
Published by the ABA Center for CLE, Section of Litigation  
Product code V97MOCC  
In this three-part program, James McElhaney, one of the most sought-after speakers on trial practice, explains how to be a more successful cross examiner.

Preparing Witnesses (CD Package)  
$255  
Published by the ABA Center for CLE, Section of Litigation  
Product code V03PWIC  
In this two-and-a-half-hour program, five experienced trial lawyers share their skills in preparing witnesses.
Arizona State Bar

- Executive Director Teresa Schmid has announced her resignation effective December 1, after four years of service. She will become executive director at the Oregon State Bar, replacing the retiring Karen Garst.

Connecticut Bar Association

- Executive Director Tim Hazen has announced his retirement effective December 31, after 18 years with the bar, the last ten as executive director. Click here for an article announcing the retirement.