People

State Bars
Guam Bar Association
Bruce A. Bradley is the new executive director.

Massachusetts Bar Association
Marilyn Wellington is no longer with the bar. Martin Healy is the acting executive director.

Oregon State Bar
Teresa Schmid is the new executive director.

Local Bars
CA - South Bay Bar Association of Los Angeles
Nicole Garcia is the new executive director.

PA - Berks County Bar
Donald F. Smith, Jr. is the new executive director.

News

BLI Registration Deadline Approaching
Registration for the 2009 ABA Bar Leadership Institute ends February 6. This year’s especially timely program will prepare you to lead your bar association during uncertain times. For more on the program and to register, click here.

Webcast Says States Must ‘Act’ to Protect Elderly
An ABA commission is using next generation technology to help keep the “greatest generation” safe.

An upcoming Webcast from the Commission on Law and Aging will explain why all states should adopt the Uniform Adult Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Jurisdiction Act, which lays out procedures for adult guardianship. The free, one-hour Webcast will cover the need for the UAGPPJJA and how to get states to adopt it.

Adult guardianship involves a person or group making decisions for another, often...
elderly adult who can no longer make decisions on their own. The commission says the different rules on guardianship from state to state has created judicial gridlock, worsened family feuds, and enabled abuse of the elderly.

The Webcast starts at 1pm central time and can be signed up for here. It will be archived on the commission's adult guardianship Web site.

ABF Professor Gets Presidential Appointment
American Bar Foundation Research Professor Austan Goolsbee has been appointed staff director and chief economist of President Obama's Economic Recovery Advisory Board. Goolsbee will also assume a position on the Council of Economic Advisors. For details on the appointment, click here.

ABA Petitions Bars to Promote Healthcare Directive
The ABA's Commission on Law and Aging is working with bar associations and other organizations to promote National Healthcare Decisions Day, April 16. The effort encourages people to execute an advance healthcare directive, which only 29% of Americans have.

More than 100 organizations have joined the effort. For more about participating, visit the NHDD Web site. The law info Web page has resources for educating the public.

Awards

Cleveland Bar Wins Diversity Award
The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association has won the first Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Award for Excellence in Pipeline Diversity.

The award, sponsored by the ABA's Presidential Advisory Council on Diversity, will be presented at a reception at the ABA Midyear Meeting in Boston. For more on the award and event, see our Featured Midyear Meetings Programs page.

ABA Revises Grants Program to Help Poor Seniors
The ABA will be awarding up to five grants of $5,000 each to states with emeritus attorney pro bono practice rules. The grants will be used to develop new methods for recruiting emeritus pro bono attorneys to take indigent adult guardianship cases. The project had previously announced it would award ten grants of $2,500 each.

Click here for details on the project and the request for proposals. For a list of states with emeritus attorney pro bono practice rules, click here.

Nomination Period Opens for Professionalism Award
The Standing Committee on Professionalism is accepting nominations for the E. Smythe Gambrell Awards, which recognize projects that enhance lawyer professionalism. This includes programs to help lawyers improve practice management skills. Bar associations and other law-related organizations are eligible. Up to three winners will receive the $3,500 award, to be presented during the ABA's 2009 Annual Meeting in Chicago.

The nomination deadline is March 31. For more on the award, including entry forms, click here or contact Art Garwin at (312) 988-5294 or Art.Garwin@americanbar.org.

Nomination Period Opens for Legal Services Award
The ABA is accepting nominations for the Harrison Tweed Award, which recognizes bar association projects and programs that increase legal services access for the poor. The award will be presented in August at the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago, for work done between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009.
The nomination deadline is April 1. For more on the award, click here or contact Tamaara Piquion at Tamaara.Piquion@americanbar.org, (312) 988-5767.

For your members

Nomination Period Opens for Gov't Lawyer Awards
The nomination period is open for the Jefferson Fordham Awards, which honor outstanding state and local government lawyers and law offices. The nomination deadline is February 27. The awards will be presented at the ABA's 2008 Annual Meeting in New York City. For more on the awards, click here.

YLD Seeks Applicants for Subgrants
The ABA YLD is seeking applicants for its subgrant program. The program awards up to $2,000 to young lawyer organizations to develop public service projects, and up to $500 for bar leadership and member services projects. The application deadline is March 1. For more on the program, click here.

Justice Award Nomination Period Open
The nomination period is open for the John Marshall Award. The award honors someone who has made a positive, national impact on the justice system. The award will be presented July 31 in Chicago. Deadline for nominations is March 13. For the nomination form and other details, click here.

Nomination Period Opens for Environmental Award
The nomination period is open for the Award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy. The award honors individuals or organizations who have distinguished themselves in environmental law and policy. It will be presented at the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago in August 2009. The nomination deadline is March 27. For the nomination form and other details, click here.

Nomination Period Opens for Domestic Violence Award
Commission on Domestic Violence is accepting nominations for the Sharon Corbitt award. The award honors individuals and organizations that demonstrate exemplary service to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The application deadline is May 31. For details, click here.

Resources

Featured Midyear Programs
The ABA's 2009 Midyear Meeting will take place February 11-17 in Boston. Click here for featured programs from the meeting.

Law Day Planning Guide
The Division for Public Education's 2009 Law Day Planning Guide is available for free download. The guide includes tips on how to organize and plan a Law Day program, how to involve community members, sample news releases, and public service announcements, and lesson plans for K-12 students.

The division is also offering promotional materials, gifts, and other items for sale at its online Law Day store. Orders placed before February 27 are 10% off.

ATJ Materials Online
The ABA has posted materials from its December, 2008 symposium on access to civil justice.

LTRC Corner
Each issue of the Bridge features an edition of LTRC Corner, an article on an aspect of technology. This edition, taken from a recent issue of Your ABA, covers e-mail backup.
Public Ed seeks Presentations for LRE Conference

The Division for Public Education is seeking presentations for an upcoming Law-Related Education conference. The conference will be held in Chicago October 1-3, 2009. The deadline for proposals is March 2. Click here for more information.

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