

People

Local Bars

CA - Santa Monica Bar Association

Linda Cain is the new executive director

MI – Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association

Executive Director Lorraine Weber has left the bar to become director of access and fairness of the Michigan Supreme Court. [Read the press release.](#)

News

ABA Takes Exception to New FTC Rule

The ABA has filed suit against the Federal Trade Commission to prevent it from applying its "Red Flags Rule" to practicing lawyers. The rule, scheduled to go into effect November 1, requires creditors to implement plans to prevent identity theft. The FTC's broad definition of creditors includes lawyers and many bar associations.

The ABA's [complaint](#) argues that the rule "imposes significant burdens upon lawyers," but "fails to articulate...a rational connection between the practice of law and identity theft." ABA President Carolyn Lamm added that the rule is "contrary to an unbroken history of state regulation of lawyers," and "would unnecessarily increase the cost of legal services."

Almost 30 state and local bar associations have registered their opposition to the rule. For more on the issue, visit the ABA's [Red Flags Rule Web page.](#)

20/20 Commission to Examine Lawyer Regulation

A new commission appointed by ABA President Carolyn B. Lamm will review the ABA's Model Rules of Professional Conduct and the U.S. system of lawyer regulation.

The "Commission on Ethics 20/20" will make policy recommendations that will account for advances in technology and global legal practice developments. Bar associations are invited to make comment by attending public hearings or writing in.

A soon-to-be-created listserv and Web site will keep participants updated on the review process. The listserv will include notices of hearing dates and draft proposals. To be added, contact [Ellyn Rosen.](#)

Mark Your Calendars for BLI 2010

The ABA's 2010 [Bar Leadership Institute](#) has been scheduled for March 11-12 at Chicago's Downtown Marriott. The annual meeting, which helps incoming bar leaders prepare to take the reins of their associations, draws more than 300 attendees.

BLOG OF THE MONTH

Just a reminder this time: follow us on [Twitter](#) (ABABarServices) for the latest in bar association news. We're on [Facebook](#), too. Become a fan of the ABA Division for Bar Services and you'll find upcoming events and photos. You can also send comments via our "wall".

- Elizabeth Derrico

DUES SURVEY FACT

90% of voluntary bars have members-only sections on their Web sites. 71% of unified bars have them, as do 57% of large local bars and 41% of small local bars.

[Order the 2009 Dues Survey.](#)

CPR UPDATE

The Vermont Supreme Court revamped the state's lawyer conduct rules, adopting a comprehensive set of amendments that closely track the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct. Learn more at CPR's [resource page for bars.](#)

LEGAL SERVICES NOW

The latest issue of [Legal Services Now](#), newsletter of the ABA Division for Legal Services, is now online (PDF format).

UPCOMING MEETINGS

9/21 - 9/25/09

[6th National Mediation Training for Judges](#)

Atlanta | Georgia State Bar Conference Center
Contact: [Jo Ann Saringer](#)

9/23 - 9/25/09

[Fall 2009 National Legal Malpractice Conference](#)

Chicago | Swissotel Chicago
Contact: [Maria Bartolo](#)

9/30 - 10/4/09

[ABA Section of State and Local Government Law Fall Meeting](#)

Austin, TX | InterContinental

Resources

New Survey Tells All On Lawyer Tech Habits

An exhaustive, six-volume survey reveals how lawyers are using technology these days -- and the role their bar associations play. The survey, published by the ABA's Legal Technology Resource Center, spans six volumes and includes responses from more than 5,000 lawyers.

Among the survey's bar-related stats: 23% of respondents use their state bar's legal research provider, such as Fastcase or Casemaker, the most for free legal research. And an interesting generational gap: respondents 60 years old and over are 16% more likely to use their state bar's Web site for free legal research than respondents 40 and younger.

Another interesting stat: the ABA is offering a 20% discount on the survey for a limited time. Call (312) 988-5465 or e-mail ltrc@americanbar.org.

Webinars on Fundraising

Two [upcoming webinars](#) will tell foundations how to stay above water in our tough economy. The series, produced by ALPS Foundation Services, will focus on effective grantmaking (September 24) and raising money from the legal community (September 29). Both webinar series are split into three hour-long parts.

National Conference of Bar Foundation members that register any part of the series will get a significant discount, and an additional discount for registering for an entire three-part series.

Disaster Planning

A new ABA Web site helps lawyers and bar associations deal with and prepare for disaster. [The site](#), which includes sample disaster plans and other tools, has [a page dedicated to bar associations](#). Bars can add their own disaster materials to the site by sending them to disaster@americanbar.org.

Pro Bono Day Web site

It's not too late. There's still time to take part in the National Celebration of Pro Bono, October 25-31. A [tool kit](#) offers a range of event ideas—from very simple to more involved—as well as publicity tips and other planning resources, many submitted by bars that are participating.

Besides holding events, the tool kit suggests joining the celebration by issuing proclamations or writing op-ed pieces or president's pages that relate to pro bono; examples of these are included in the tool kit as well.

Free LPM Webzine

ABA webzine [Law Practice Today](#) covers current law practice management topics. The monthly publication deals with LPM topics such as work/life balance and managing as a solo lawyer. Bar associations can distribute the webzine to their members for no charge by [e-mailing the Law Practice Management section](#).

Help for Constitution Day

The ABA is offering help preparing for Constitution Day, September 17. Its [Constitution Day Web site](#) has "conversation starters" and other resources to help organizations commemorate the day. All federally funded organizations are required by law to celebrate.

ABA Practice Essentials: Articles

Stephen F. Austin Hotel
Contact: [Marsha Boone](#)

10/1

[10th LIVE from the SEC \(2009\)](#)
Washington, DC | Teleconference,
Videoconference and Webcast
formats
Contact: [Jenny Abreu](#)

10/1 - 10/3/09

[26th National Law-Related
Education Conference](#)
Chicago | Hotel Sax
Contact: [Colleen Danz](#)

10/6 - 10/9/09

[22nd National Conference for
Lawyer Assistance Programs -
Serving the Arc of the Legal
Career](#)
Phoenix | The Arizona Grand
Resort
Contact: [Leigh Stewart](#)

10/7 - 10/10/09

[ABA Section of Family Law Fall
CLE Conference](#)
Montreal | Hilton Montreal
Bonaventure
Contact: [Carrie Asalon](#)

10/8 - 10/9/09

[Miller-Becker Institute for
Professional Responsibility
Symposium](#)
Akron, OH | Quaker Square Inn at
the University of Akron
Contact: [Shannon Aupperle](#)

10/15 - 10/17/09

[GP|Solo Fall Meeting & NSSFC](#)
Los Angeles, CA | Biltmore
Contact: [Laura Ramirez](#)

10/21 - 10/23/09

[NABE Communications Section
Workshop](#)
Las Vegas | Rio All-Suites Hotel
Contact: [Stephanie Abbott](#)

10/22 - 10/24/09

[ABA YLD Fall Conference](#)
Birmingham | Sheraton
Birmingham Hotel
Contact: [Megan Sheets](#)

10/27 - 10/31/09

[International Law Section's 2009
Fall Meeting](#)
Miami Beach, FL | Eden Roc
Resort & Spa
Contact: [Jenny Abreu](#)

10/28 - 10/31/09

[2009 National Lawyer Referral
Workshop](#)
Baltimore, MD | Tremont Plaza
Hotel
Contact: [Jami Krause](#)

Looking for information on a very specific topic? Search articles from select ABA magazines by keywords and abstracts and download individual PDF articles. Visit the ABA Web Store at www.ababooks.org/articles.

Justice For Sale

The ABA has posted the [video](#) of *Justice for Sale?*, a panel discussion on judicial campaign contributions held at its 2009 Annual Meeting in Chicago. The program, which included former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Dennis Archer, was moderated by ABA Standing Committee on Judicial Independence Chair Bill Weisenberg.

Pro Bono Award Video Posted

The ABA has [posted the video](#) of its Pro Bono Publico Award ceremony from the 2009 Annual Meeting in Chicago. Five recipients were honored for their work improving legal services.

LPM Articles Helps Lawyers Survive the Recession

More than [a dozen free articles](#) make up a new ABA Web page to help attorneys keep their practices afloat during the economic downturn. The page, published by the Law Practice Management Section, links to recent articles on marketing, management, technology, and finance -- the four core areas of law practice management.

Group to Help Shape Diversity Policy

The ABA is seeking participants for a group that will make recommendations on improving diversity in the profession. The group is part of a "State of Diversity in the Legal Profession" initiative started by ABA Immediate Past President Tommy Wells and being continued by current President Carolyn Lamm. To participate, send a message to [Angie Shaw](#) by September 30.

ABA Keeping Members Well Dressed

American clothier Brooks Brothers has joined the ABA's [Member Advantage program](#).

Awards

Nomination Period 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 2010 at the ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

The nomination deadline is November 24.

Two State Bar Programs Win YLD Awards

The South Carolina Bar Young Lawyers Division and the Washington State Bar Young Lawyers Division took home the top honors for the 2008-2009 ABA YLD Awards of Achievement program. The awards recognize young lawyer organizations programs that benefit local communities, leaders, members, and the profession. For more on the program and a list of 2008-2009 winners, visit the [ABA YLD website](#).

[Back to Top](#)

11/6 - 11/8/09

[National Institute for Teaching Ethics and Professionalism](#)

Cartersville, GA | Red Top Mountain Lodge

Contact: [Charlotte Alexander](#)

11/9 - 11/13/09

[40-Hour Family Mediation Training](#)

Boston | Boston Collaborative Law, LLC

Contact: [Alissa Norris](#)

11/11 - 11/13/09

[NABE Government Relations Section Workshop](#)

Seattle | Washington State Bar Association

Contact: [Donald Philips](#)

11/12 - 11/13/09

[ABA Law Firm Marketing Strategies Conference](#)

Philadelphia | Four Seasons Hotel

Contact: [Mary Beth Thede](#)

3/11 - 3/12/10

[Bar Leadership Institute](#)

Chicago | Downtown Marriott

Contact: [Karyn Linn](#)

3/25 - 3/27/10

[ABA TECHSHOW](#)

Chicago | Hilton

Contact: [Svetlana Kramarova](#)

