

People

National Bars

Association of Legal Administrators

ABA Law Practice Management Section Director Larry Smith has been named the association's new executive director. ([Press release](#))

Hispanic National Bar Association

Zuraya Tapia-Alfaro is the bar's new executive director.

National Bar Association

J. Robert Carr is the new executive director.

State Bars

Connecticut Bar Association

D. Larkin Chenault has been named the bar's executive director. Chenault had been executive director at the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association. ([Press release](#))

Local Bars

CA – Los Angeles County Bar Association

Sally Suchil is the bar's new executive director.

MI – Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association

Mitzy Sharp Futro has been named executive director.

OH – Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association

General Counsel K. Ann Zimmerman has been named interim executive director as the bar seeks a replacement for outgoing ED D. Larkin Chenault.

News

ABA ED Henry White Resigns

American Bar Association Executive Director Henry White has announced his resignation after three years in the position. In a goodbye message to staff, White reflected on his accomplishments during his tenure and concluded that "now is an appropriate time for me to move on and pursue new challenges and opportunities."

ABA General Counsel Thomas Howell is acting as interim executive director during the search for a permanent replacement.

ABA Commission on Ethics 20/20 Preliminary Issues Outline: Please Provide Comments By December 31, 2009

The ABA Commission on Ethics 20/20 has posted for comment an [outline](#) of the issues it is exploring. The Commission expects that the number and nature of subjects in the Outline will change as its work progresses and comments are received. Particular phraseology and the order in which subjects are listed are not intended to connote any prioritization of or Commission position on issues, nor is consideration of other topics omitted intended to be foreclosed. The Commission would appreciate receiving comments via e-mail at ethics2020@americanbar.org

BLOG OF THE MONTH

A reminder: 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

63% of local bars have special programs to attract young lawyers and new admittees. Nearly 60% of all bars with these programs indicated they were either very or somewhat successful.

[Order the 2009 Dues Survey.](#)

LTRC CORNER

E-mail a document directly from Word | From MS Word 2003, click File menu, Send To, then *Mail Recipient* to send a document in the body of an e-mail, or *Mail Recipient (as Attachment)* to send it as an attachment.

LEGAL SERVICES NOW

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

HOD REPORTS

The Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section of the American Bar Association has submitted three recommendations and reports to be considered by the ABA House of Delegates in February.

- [Recommendation supporting the adoption of Model Act Governing Standards for the Care and Disposition of Disaster Animals](#)
- [Recommendation urging the U.S. Senate to ratify the "Rotterdam Rules"](#)
- [Recommendation opposing the adoption of "Universal 24 Hour](#)

by December 31, 2009.

Report Reveals Wide Justice Gap

Nearly a million poor people who seek help for civil legal problems this year will be turned away, the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) projects in a [report released this September](#).

The report's conclusion calls for more pro bono assistance from private attorneys and more funding from federal, state, local and private sources. "We must do more to close the justice gap and provide equal access to justice for all Americans," LSC President Helaine M. Barnett said.

New Fraud Scheme Targets Lawyers

The Louisiana State Bar has alerted members to a new scheme to defraud lawyers out of an exorbitant sum of money. The bar says one lawyer has already been victimized.

In one typical case, says the bar, a supposed client contacted a lawyer asking for help collecting more than \$500,000 from an ex-spouse. The lawyer then received a check from the purported ex-spouse for the amount, payable to the firm, which the client then asked for.

The bar says if the lawyer had deposited the check into a trust, he would have been given provisional credit on the amount. When the check later bounced, he would have owed the full amount.

The bar urged its members to exercise caution when accepting new cases.

Lamm Asks For Support for Neglected Children

To mark National Adoption Month, ABA President Carolyn Lamm released [this Op-Ed piece](#) urging lawyers and bar associations to help troubled children and encourage adoption. Lamm asks bars to support extension of the Federal Adoption Tax Credit in order to help place the 500,000 US children now in foster care, many as a result of abuse. "This is an area where lawyers can make a lasting difference," says Lamm.

ABA Urges Bars to Mobilize for "Decision" Day

The ABA is encouraging and helping bars participate in National Healthcare Decisions Day, April 16, 2010. The event encourages Americans to execute an advance healthcare directive making clear their wishes in end-of-life situations. Studies show that only 30% of Americans have such a document.

Nearly 100 national organizations, and hundreds of state and local organizations, participated in last year's NHDD. The [Virginia State Bar's experience](#) was published in an issue of *The Health Lawyer*.

Planning help can be found at the [NHDD Web site](#) and on the ABA's [law info Web page](#). The ABA's Commission on Law and Aging has published a [toolkit on advance healthcare directives](#).

For more on NHDD, contact Charlie Sabatino at SabatinoC@staff.abanet.org.

Registration Approaches for BLI 2010

Registration is set to open next week for the ABA's 2010 [Bar Leadership Institute](#), 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. Bar association executive directors and presidents-elect will receive a notice with the registration form and other details.

Registration Opens for ABA Techshow

Registration has opened for the ABA's annual [TechShow](#), to be held March 25-27.

[Health Coverage" by Congress](#)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

2/2 - 2/6/10

NABE/NCBP/NCBF Midyear Meeting
Orlando, FL | Walt Disney World Resort
Contact: [Pamela Robinson](#)

2/3 - 2/9/10

[ABA Midyear Meeting](#)
Orlando, FL
Contact: [Meetings & Travel](#)

3/11 - 3/12/10

[Bar Leadership Institute](#)
Chicago | Downtown Marriott
Contact: [Karyn Linn](#)

3/25 - 3/27/10

[ABA TECHSHOW](#)
Chicago | Hilton Chicago
Contact: [Svetlana Kramarova](#)

4/20 - 4/22/10

[ABA Day](#)
Washington, DC
Contact: [Julie Strandlie](#)

4/29 - 4/30/10

[Women in Law Leadership Academy](#)
Philadelphia

Resources

New ABA Revenue-Sharing Benefit for Bars

A just-introduced ABA program offers bar members 15% off purchases from its Web store – and bar associations 15% of the revenue. The program, called the ABA Bar Affiliate Benefit Program, will provide bars marketing content, including a "widget" to place on their Web pages. For more, contact Catherine Kruse at Catherine.Kruse@americanbar.org.

ABA Executive Director's Report

Browse the [ABA Executive Director's Report](#) for ABA program and project highlights from each month.

Law Student Loan Repayment Guide

The ABA has created an [online guide](#) to law student loan repayment.

H1N1 Resources

Flu season is fast upon us. Beyond making sure there are hand sanitizers at your programs, what should your bar association do to be prepared? Check out [these resources](#) from the ABA Division for Bar Services.

Lawyers and Foundations Make A Difference

With the recent completion of National Pro Bono Week and Thanksgiving just around the corner, let's consider the impact of bar and other legal foundations across the country. While the full extent of charitable giving by lawyers is unknown, statistics released through the efforts of the National Conference of Bar Foundations (NCBF) in conjunction with ALPS Foundations Services reveal that the legal profession is indeed making a difference in communities nationwide.

In 2007, law-related foundations impacted their communities and society by contributing over \$210 million toward legal causes through grants, scholarships, loan repayment assistance and other programs. With over 269 foundations in the United States, it is estimated that total bar and legal foundation giving in 2007 exceeded \$500 million. Consider this data when you are making the case for lawyer-giving and for the important contribution the legal profession makes to the quality of life in our respective communities. [See Part I](#) and [Part II](#) of the report on "The State of Bar Foundations" survey.

BAI on the WAY

The 2009 edition of the *Bar Activities Inventory* will be available in early December. Last published in 2005, the inventory has been updated with more than 3,000 individual statistics on the operations of more than 200 bar associations. Bar executives will be e-mailed a notice at its release.

New BoardLink Online

The [fall 2009 issue of BoardLink](#), the Division for Bar Services' quarterly newsletter on effective board practices, is now online.

New Resource for Technology Info

The ABA has launched a [new Web page](#) to help its members understand and stay on top of current technology.

National Domestic Violence Pro Bono Directory

Check out the ABA's [Pro Bono Guide](#), a national database of programs on providing pro bono legal services to victims of domestic violence.

Video Panel Discussion on Supreme Court

The impact of Justice Sonia Sotomayor is among many topics covered in a [new video on the nation's highest court](#). The video is taken from a panel discussion held at the ABA's law museum last September. The three-person panel included *Slate* legal correspondent Dahlia Lithwick and *New York Times* Supreme Court

correspondent Adam Liptak. The panel also examined how the modern media covers the Supreme Court.

Law Day Gets Theme

The theme for Law Day 2010 is *Law in the 21st Century: Enduring Traditions, Emerging Challenges*. Visit www.lawday.org for more information.

Presentation Template on Guardianship Act

The ABA Commission on Law and Aging has posted a [PowerPoint presentation template](#) on Why States Should Enact the Uniform Adult Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Jurisdiction Act (UAGPPJA or Act). The template is for use by presenters at national, state, or local conferences or meetings and at state legislative hearings.

Hotel Discount for ABA Members

A new ABA member benefit offers [25% off the best available rate](#) at more than 500 hotels and resorts around the world, through December 31.

Web Site to Report on Fed Court Happenings

An upcoming ABA Web site will report on newsworthy cases in Federal Circuit Courts. The site will provide short summaries of Circuit Court opinions of public interest and cases pending oral argument.

Deadline approaching for the National Online Youth Summit.

A December 9 deadline has been announced to [register](#) for the ABA's National Online Youth Summit. The 12-week, web-based program encourages high school students to learn about and critically evaluate a timely, law-related topic.

Awards

Nomination Period Opens for Legal Services Award

Nominations are being accepted for the 2010 ABA [Louis M. Brown Award for Legal Access](#). The award recognizes innovations in the delivery of legal services to those of moderate incomes. The nomination deadline is December 12.

Nomination Period Opens for Pro Bono Award

The ABA Senior Lawyers Division is accepting nominations for the 2010 John H. Pickering Achievement Award. The award honors pro bono activities and law-related societal issues affecting the elderly. The nomination deadline is February 26.

For more information, visit www.abanet.org/srlawyers and scroll to Awards.

Miami's Angones Wins Diversity Award

ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services member Frank Angones is among five winners of the ABA's annual Spirit of Excellence Awards. The awards honor lawyers who promote racial and ethnic diversity in the legal profession. Angones is a new appointment to the committee, which oversees the work of the Division for Bar Services. He is a past president of the Florida Bar and current partner in the Miami firm Angones, McClure & Garcia P.A.

The awards will be presented at the ABA's Midyear Meeting in Orlando, FL. To sponsor the awards, click [here](#). For more on the awards, contact Aracely Muñoz Petrich at (312) 988-5638 or Aracely.MunozPetrich@americanbar.org.

Application Period Opens for YLD Subgrant Program

Nominations are being accepted for the ABA Young Lawyers Division's [Subgrant Program](#). The program provides funding to young lawyer organizations for activities that benefit local communities, leaders, or members. The application deadline is March 1.

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