Bar Leader Going Electronic in October

*Bar Leader* is going digital. The magazine -- the ABA's signature periodical for bar association leaders -- will become a free, online-only publication beginning with the next issue, to be published in October.

The online *Bar Leader* will feature key improvements. It will be published six times a year instead of four. Each issue will focus on a key development in the bar world. And the format will allow for information to be shared more easily via social networking.

Roseanne Lucianek, director of the ABA's Division for Bar Services, emphasizes that the format change will not reduce quality. The online version "will continue to deliver the same high quality, thoughtful reporting that you have associated with *Bar Leader* magazine," she says.

High-Profile Lawyers to Highlight Free Leadership Webcast

Famed defense attorneys Rusty Hardin and Sam Adam Jr. will headline the ABA Section of Litigation's fall leadership meeting in St. Louis this week. The session, along with one on leadership and the civil rights movement, will be webcast live at no charge.

Hardin and Adam Jr. are known for their recent defense of former major league baseball pitcher Roger Clemens and former Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich, respectively. Both attorneys will speak at the program "Baseball, A Governor & Successful Trial Strategies in High Profile Cases" on Saturday, September 29 at 9:30 a.m. Central time.

The first plenary, "Lessons in Leadership from the Civil Rights Movement," will be broadcast Friday, September 28 at 8:45 a.m. Central time.

The section is encouraging bar associations to link to the webcast on their websites. Attendees must register to listen to the webcast but do not have to be ABA members.

ABA to Commemorate 50th Anniversary of Landmark Decision

The ABA will commemorate the 50th anniversary of *Gideon v. Wainwright*, the landmark Supreme Court ruling that required state courts to provide counsel in criminal cases for defendants who cannot afford their own. The anniversary will be March 8, 2013.

The ABA is inviting bar leaders to join in the occasion and use it to refocus attention on the crisis facing the criminal justice system. A tool kit for bar leaders will be posted soon. Suggestions include featuring the event on March journal covers.
For more on the event, contact Tori Wible or Karyn Linn.

Indigent Defense Summit to Highlight Gideon Anniversary
The 2013 Summit on Indigent Defense has been announced for February. The conference will focus on the 50th anniversary of Gideon v. Wainwright and how bar leaders can help resolve the crisis in indigent defense.

Ethics 20/20 Seeking Comments on Drafts
The ABA Commission on Ethics 20/20 has released for comment by October 12, updated drafts relating to inbound foreign lawyers.

The commission will consider comments on the drafts at its October 25 and 26, 2012 meeting, when it will decide whether to file proposals on these issues with the ABA House of Delegates for consideration at the 2013 ABA Midyear Meeting.

ABA Approves Criteria Changes for Law School Approval
The ABA House of Delegates has approved changes to its Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools, while an ABA Council has approved changes to Criteria for Foreign Programs Established by ABA-Approved Law Schools. Details are noted here.

ABA Commemorates Disability Awareness Month
The ABA is asking bar associations to share how they plan to commemorate Disability Employment Awareness Month in October. Bars that share how they are observing the month may be featured on the commission's website or in its newsletter.

The 2013 theme for the month is A Strong Workforce is an Inclusive Workforce: What Can You Do? Bars looking for ideas can contact Amy Allbright at Amy.Allbright@americanbar.org or (202) 662-1575 or visit the Department of Labor's website.

Institute Studies Profession's Diversity Goals
The Institute for Inclusion in the Legal Profession is undertaking a study to clarify the legal profession's goals for diversity and inclusion. Bar associations are invited to participate by taking the survey. Responses are due by March 15, 2013.

Awards
Nominations Open for NCBF Award
Nominations are now open for the 2013 National Conference of Bar Foundation Fundraising for Success Award. This award recognizes fundraising initiatives "large and small" that support the mission of the bar foundation. Deadline for submissions is November 21.

Nominations Open for Diversity Pipeline Award
Nominations are now open for the Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Award for Excellence in Pipeline Diversity. The award recognizes exemplary leadership in "pipeline" work by an individual or organization.

Submissions are due October 1. The award will be presented at the ABA Midyear Meeting in Dallas on Friday, February 8, 2013.