

People

National Bars

National Association of Women Lawyers

Macarena ("Rena") Tamayo-Calabrese is the association's new ED.

State Bars

MO | The Missouri Bar

Executive Director Keith Birkes retired last December, and has been succeeded by Sebrina Barrett, who had been the bar's deputy executive director.

State Bars

GA | Atlanta Bar Association

Terri Beck is the bar's new executive director.

News

Registration Deadline Approaches for BLI 2013

Registration will close in just three weeks for the ABA's 2013 [Bar Leadership Institute](#), scheduled for March 13-15 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. Registration ends February 22.

Bar School Recordings Released

Bar School is now offering makeup classes. The ABA has launched [selected recordings](#) of the one-hour webinar series for bar leaders. The new feature will make *Bar School's* most popular classes available for download in MP4 format. Four classes are now up for download, including a quick refresher on last year's *Bar Leadership Institute*. Learn more at the [Bar School: Recorded Sessions](#) home page.

Bar Coalition Launches Training Program for Diverse Lawyers

Five national bar associations have launched a [new leadership program](#) to train young, diverse lawyers. Called the *Collaborative Bar Leadership Academy*, the two-day meeting seeks to "strengthen the pipeline of diverse bar association leaders by providing leadership training and professional development." The first meeting will be held June 27 and 28. The coalition encourages bar associations to encourage their diverse young lawyer members to apply.

The academy is an initiative of the American Bar Association and four national minority bar associations: the Hispanic National Bar Association, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, National Bar Association, and the National Native American Bar Association.

Indigent Defense Summit to Focus on State Bars

ABA President Laurel Bellows and State Bar of Texas President Buck Files will headline the 8th annual [Summit on Indigent Defense](#), to be held Saturday, February 9, at the ABA Midyear Meeting in Dallas. The daylong program will discuss how to fulfill the promise of the landmark *Gideon v. Wainwright* decision,

BLOG OF THE MONTH

[Behind Bars](#) | The blog from the Division for Bar Services. Written by DBS staff, it will keep you up to date on the latest news, information and expertise on bar leadership, management and programming. [Subscribe now](#).

- Elizabeth Derrico

LEGAL SERVICES NOW

For the latest developments in legal aid funding and pro bono issues, click [here](#).

MAF SURVEY FACT

About 2/3 of executive directors of state bars are lawyers; about 20% of executive directors of local bars are lawyers.

[Order the 2011 Membership, Administration and Finance Survey](#)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

2/5 - 2/9/13

[NABE/NCBP/NCBF](#) Midyear Meeting
Dallas | Hilton Anatole
Contact: [Pamela Robinson](#)

2/6 - 2/12/13

[ABA Midyear Meeting](#)
Dallas | Hilton Anatole
Contact: [Meetings & Travel](#)

2/9

[2013 Summit on Indigent Defense](#)
Dallas | Hilton Anatole
Contact: [Tori Jo Wible](#)

3/13 - 3/15/13

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

5/16 - 5/17/13

2013 Business Bar Leaders Conference
Chicago | The Renaissance O'Hare Suites
Contact: [Maggie Hajduk](#)

5/30 - 5/31/13

which 50 years ago established the state right to counsel regardless of ability to pay. Presidents Bellows and Files will discuss the importance of the private bar in providing access to justice for all.

Task Force Seeks Bar Leader Input

The ABA's Task Force Future on the Future of Legal Education is seeking bar leaders' suggestions for change regarding the costs and economics, and the delivery and regulation, of legal education. The task force has just posted [a document with issues, ideas, and questions for comment](#). Comments should be sent to futurelegaled@americanbar.org. For more on the task force, click [here](#).

ABF Seeks to Make An ATJ Breakthrough

A recent two-day workshop laid the seeds for what the American Bar Foundation hopes will be a durable, national access to justice program. About 100 legal aid professionals met at the "Access to Civil Justice" workshop last December to brainstorm how to revitalize access to justice research. The foundation expects to release a research agenda from the meeting soon. For more on the ABF's ATJ research, click [here](#).

The National Dialogue: A GPSolo Initiative

A new ABA initiative seeks to bring bar leaders together to serve solo and small firm practitioners. The "National Dialogue," sponsored by the ABA's GPSolo section, was rolled out last October in Seattle. [Click here](#) for a summary of the session and ideas generated.

Lawyers Needed to Judge ABA Moot Court Competitions in Five Cities

The ABA Law Student Division needs 1,250 licensed attorneys to serve as moot court competition judges in February / March at federal and state courthouses in Boston, Las Vegas, San Francisco, St. Louis, and Washington, DC. CLE may be available. Please visit www.ambar.org/lsdnaacjudgepage for details about the regional competitions and to sign up to be an oral argument judge.

Resources

ABA Touts Great Things in Store for Law Day

Bars in the market for Law Day giveaways can check out the new [Lay Day mini-store](#). The store has shirts, mugs, and other trinkets promoting this year's Law Day theme, *Realizing the Dream: Equality for All*.

The ABA is offering a 10% discount on products bought in the store until March 29. To activate the discount, use code LPE12ELAW501.

New Directory for LAP Speakers

A new online speakers' bureau [directory](#) features experts on lawyer assistance issues such as alcoholism and substance abuse. Speakers can be searched by state or topic area.

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 30% of Americans have.

Nearly 100 organizations joined the effort last year. For more about participating, visit the NHDD Web site. For more resources, click [here](#).

[National Conference on Professional Responsibility](#)
San Antonio | Hilton Palacio del Rio
Contact: [Angela Burke](#)



Awards

Nominations Sought for Tweed Award

The ABA is accepting nominations for the [2013 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 San Francisco, for work done between April 1, 2012 and March 22, 2013.

The nomination deadline is March 22.

Solo and Small Firm Project Award

Nominations are open for the [Solo and Small Firm Project Award](#). The award honors bar leaders and associations for implementing projects or programs for solo and small firm lawyers.

Applications are due by March 29.

Nomination Period Open for Gambrell Awards

The Standing Committee on Professionalism is accepting nominations for the [E. Smythe Gambrell Awards](#), which recognize projects that enhance lawyer professionalism. Bar associations and other law-related organizations are eligible. Up to three winners will receive the \$3,500 award, to be presented in August during the ABA's 2013 Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

The nomination deadline is March 29.

Law Day 2012 Awards to Be Presented

Winners of the American Bar Association Outstanding Law Day Activity Award will be recognized at the NABE/NCBP/NCBF Joint Luncheon on Friday, February 8 in Dallas. The three honorees - the Guam Bar Association/Judiciary of Guam/District Court of Guam, the Nevada Supreme Court, and the Dallas Bar Association - will be awarded for excellence in their Law Day programming.

The Bridge

[Subscribe](#) | [ABA Home](#) | [Bar Services Home](#)