

People

LA | Lafayette Bar Association

Heather Broussard is the bar's new executive director, replacing Susan Holliday

PA | Philadelphia Bar Association

Mark Tarasiewicz is the bar's new executive director. He replaces Ken Shear, who has retired.

News

BLI Registration Opens; Scholarships Available

Registration has opened for the ABA's signature conference for bar leaders. More than 300 are expected to attend the [2014 Bar Leadership Institute](#), to be held March 12 -14 at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile. The meeting will prepare incoming bar leaders to guide their associations, with a focus on leadership, governance, and communications skills.

Five need-based [scholarships](#) are available for the meeting, consisting of a waiver of the registration fee and a \$500 travel reimbursement. Applications are due Wednesday, January 8.

DBS Releases Latest Bar Membership, Dues Data

The newest edition of bar data reference [Membership, Administration, & Finance Survey](#) has landed in the ABA bookstore. Besides a fresh new cover, the benchmarking standard breaks down the titular structures of 168 bars, in categories including association management software, expense allocation, and, of course, dues levels.

New Database Makes Favorite Topics Available 24/7

Bar leaders looking for sample policies just gained a new friend. The Division for Bar Services has rolled out [Bar Cat](#), an online collection of some of the most-requested items in its 18,000 document clearinghouse. The free catalog includes PDFs of bar record retention policies, senior staff position descriptions, and section best practices, and many other popular bar topics.

Registration Opens for NABE/NCBP/NCBF Midyears

Registration is open for the 2014 NABE/NCBP/NCBF Midyear Meetings. The winter conferences, scheduled for February 4-8, 2014, will be held at the [Hyatt Regency Chicago](#), steps from historic Michigan Avenue.

Discounted early [registration](#) for the meetings closes Friday, December 6. Advance registration closes Tuesday, January 7. Send questions to [NABE- NCBP-NCBFregistration@americanbar.org](mailto:NABE-NCBP-NCBFregistration@americanbar.org).

ABA London Sessions

The ABA will wrap up a yearlong celebration of Magna Carta with a 3-day conference in the historic charter's birthplace. The "[London Sessions](#)," scheduled for June 11-14, 2015, will include CLE programs, plenaries, and tours related to the document's sealing 800 years ago in Runnymede, England.

BLOG OF THE MONTH

[Law21](#) | The latest on changes in the practice of law. A must read.

- Elizabeth Derrico

MAF SURVEY FACT

The average dues level for a voluntary state bar is \$264, up 8.6% from the average of \$243 in 2011.

[Order the 2013 Membership, Administration and Finance Survey](#)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

12/4

[Lunch & Learn with the ABA Death Penalty Representation Project](#)

Los Angeles | Morris Polich & Purdy/Greenberg Traurig
Contact: [Kaitlin Sandin](#)

2/4 - 2/8/14

[NABE/NCBP/NCBF Midyear Meetings](#)

Chicago | Hyatt Regency
Contact: [Rebecca Green](#)

2/5 - 2/11/14

[ABA Midyear Meeting](#)

Chicago | Hyatt Regency
Contact: [ABA Meetings & Travel](#)

2/8/14

[Summit on Indigent Defense](#)

Chicago | Swissotel
Contact: [Tori Jo Wible](#)

3/12 - 3/14/14

[ABA Bar Leadership Institute](#)

Chicago | Downtown Marriott
Contact: [Maggie Bieniek](#)

5/1 - 5/3/14

[ABA/NLADA Equal Justice Conference](#)

Portland, OR | Hilton Portland
Contact: [Erin Wellin](#)

5/1 - 5/3/14

[National Legal Mentoring Consortium Conference](#)

Columbus, OH
Contact: [Sharon C. Williams](#)

6/11 - 6/14/15

[ABA London Sessions](#)
London

Resources

The Professional Lawyer Now Priceless for Bar Execs

The ABA is offering bar executives complimentary subscriptions to long-running periodical [The Professional Lawyer](#), to coincide with its conversion to electronic-only. The publication examines professional responsibility in the legal profession. To subscribe, e-mail a request to [Angela Burke](#).

Indigent Defense Summit Coming

The 2014 Summit on Indigent Defense will be held Saturday, February 8, at the ABA Midyear Meeting in Chicago. This year's [summit](#) will look at how the Washington State Bar partnered with defenders to create change in the staggering workloads facing defense counsel, among other topics.

The summit, for leaders of state bars and others interested in indigent defense reform, highlights recent developments in indigent defense around the country and promotes dialogue with peers from other states.

Legal Mentoring Consortium to Host Conference

A national conference this spring will explore the importance of mentoring in the legal profession. The meeting, "[Mentoring in our Evolving Profession](#)," will be held May 1-3 in Columbus, Ohio. Topics will likely include mentoring the millennial generation and mentoring with a limited budget.

The conference is hosted by the National Legal Mentoring Consortium, a group of bar leaders and others that encourages mentoring in the profession.

November ABA Washington Letter Published

The [ABA Washington Letter](#) for November 2013 is now online for viewing.

The *Letter*, a service of the American Bar Association Governmental Affairs Office, has been providing up-to-date information on federal legislative issues to national, state and local bar leaders for more than 50 years. It is now produced exclusively in electronic form.

ABA to Hold Death Penalty Pro Bono Program in LA

A free program next month will show lawyers how to volunteer to represent people facing death row without counsel. The 90-minute [Los Angeles Lunch & Learn](#) presentation will be held in Los Angeles December 4 and repeated on December 5. Complimentary lunch will be included. The program is produced by the ABA Death Penalty Representation Project.

ABA Gives A Hand to Stepfamilies

A new manual from the ABA's Family Law section shows parents and children how to survive in a blended family. The manual, "[Your Blended Family: A Guide for Parents and Stepparents](#)," is available in the ABA bookstore.

Awards

Nomination Period Opens for Legal Access Award

Nominations are being accepted for the 2014 Louis M. Brown Award for Legal Access. The [award](#) honors innovative programs and projects that advance access to legal services for those of moderate incomes. Nominations are due Friday, December 13.

Nomination Period Opens for Past Presidents Award

The National Conference of Bar Presidents (NCBP) is accepting nominations for

Books for Bars

ABA Books for Bars offers bar members a 15% discount on ABA books, and a 15% commission for your bar. Participating bars receive marketing materials and assistance promoting the program! [Learn more](#)



the 2014 NCBP Fellows Award. The [award](#), established in 2005, honors an outstanding past president of a bar association.

The award will be presented on Friday, February 7, at the NCBP/NABE/NCBF Joint Awards Luncheon, part of [NCBP's 2014 Midyear Meeting](#) in Chicago. Nominations are due Friday, December 6.

Volunteers Sought for Minority Internship Program

The ABA Section of Litigation is seeking volunteers for its Summer 2014 Judicial Intern Opportunity Program. The [program](#) lets minority and financially disadvantaged law students intern with a state or federal judge for the summer.

Highly competitive, the JIOP fielded more than 700 applications last year. Volunteers are needed to help prescreen interviews, serve as panelists at program orientations, and participate in local mentoring programs.

Applications are due Friday, January 10, 2014.

Nominations Open for Three Public Lawyer Awards

The Government and Public Sector Lawyers Division is accepting nominations for a [trio of national awards](#) that will be presented at the ABA's August 2014 Annual Meeting in Boston. Nominations are due Monday, April 7, 2014.

Nomination Period Opens for Brent Award

The ABA Commission on Women in the Profession is accepting [nominations](#) for its 2014 Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award. The nomination deadline is Monday, December 2.

The Brent award honors five women lawyers who have achieved professional excellence and actively paved the way to success for other women lawyers. It will be presented in August 2014, at the ABA Annual Meeting in Boston.

Law Day Outstanding Activity Award Winners Announced

The Houston Bar Association, Law Day 2013 Dream Team, and Connecticut Judicial Branch have won the 2013 Law Day Outstanding Activity Awards. Read descriptions of the winning programs, and those of the finalists, at www.lawday.org.

Visit our [awards page](#) for more on ABA awards open to bar associations.