Top News

New York, Columbus Bars Win Diversity Award
The New York State Bar Association and Columbus Bar Association are the winners of this year's ABA Partnership Awards. The awards recognize bar association diversity efforts. The bars will be honored Friday, July 31 at the NABE/NCBP/NCBF Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Birmingham Bar Wins Tweed Award
The Birmingham Bar Association is the recipient of the 2015 Harrison Tweed Award. The award recognizes programs that increase legal services access to poor persons. The bar will be honored Friday, July 31 at the NABE/NCBP/NCBF Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Bar Services Director Honored
Roseanne Lucianek, director of the ABA Division for Bar Services, has been announced as the winner of the 2015 NABE Bolton Award. The award recognizes exceptional professionalism and achievement by a bar executive. Roseanne will be honored on Friday, July 31 at the NABE/NCBP/NCBF Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Legal Education Financing Task Force Issues Report
An ABA Task Force created in 2014 to examine law school financing, including the cost of legal education for law students, has concluded its work and issued its report.

Updated Criminal Justice System Report Released
The ABA has released the 2015 edition of its annual The State of Criminal Justice. The 19-chapter report examines major issues, trends, and changes in the criminal justice system.

Reports & Resources

Public Defense Summit Dates Announced
The ABA will hold its 11th Summit on Public Defense on Saturday, February 6 in San Diego. The daylong conference will address ethical blindness, bail reform, and flat fee contracts, among other topics.

IIILACE Conference to Unite Legal Organization Leaders
A September conference will bring together chief executives of law societies and bar associations from around the world to discuss strategic and executive issues.

Pro Bono Celebration and ABA Day of Service Announced
The 7th Annual National Celebration of Pro Bono will take place October 25-31. To learn more, visit celebrateprobono.org.

ABA Offers Free Bar Journal Archives
The ABA is offering free, nicely bound volumes of state bar journals from several
state and local bars. The collection dates from the 1970s to the late 2000s. Contact Jill Sandor at (202) 662-1015 or jill.sandor@americanbar.org.

**Awards**

**Nomination Period Open for Difference Makers Awards**
The ABA Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division is accepting nominations for its annual Difference Makers Awards, recognizing lawyers who break barriers through service to the community and the profession. Nominations are due Friday, July 31.

**Marshall Award Winner Announced**
Randall Terry Shepard, the longest-serving chief justice of the Supreme Court of Indiana, is the recipient of the ABA's John Marshall Award. The award honors positive national impact on the justice system. The award will be presented Friday, July 31 during the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago.

**Pro Bono Award Winners Announced**
Five winners have been announced for the ABA Pro Bono Publico Award. The award honors lawyers and legal organizations that improve or deliver volunteer legal services to the poor. The recipients will be honored Saturday, August 1 at the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago.

**Silver Gavel Award Winners Announced**
Winners have been announced for the 2015 Silver Gavel Awards for Media and the Arts. The awards recognize products in media and the arts that improve the American public's understanding of law and the legal system. The awards will be presented July 21 in Washington, DC.

**Calls to Action**

**ABA Asks Bars to Commit to Disability Diversity**
The ABA is calling on bar associations to sign its Pledge for Change, committing to advance the careers of lawyers with disabilities. More than 180 organizations have signed the document since it was released in 2009.

**Policy & Legislation**

**ABA Approves Revised Law School Approval Standards**
The ABA Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar last month approved several proposed revisions to the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools. Comments on the proposals should be sent to jr.clark@americanbar.org by Friday, July 10.

**ABA Accredits One Law School, Denies Another**
The ABA has granted provisional approval to Idaho's Concordia University School of Law, while Indiana Tech Law School was denied its accreditation request.

**People**

**Hennepin County Gets New ED**
Duane Stanley has been named executive director of Minnesota's Hennepin County Bar Association.

**For Your Members**

**ABA Family Law Section Launches Calendar App**
A new app from the ABA's Section of Family Law lists dates of holidays through 2035. The $4.95 app can be downloaded from the Apple and Google Play stores.