Top News

Last Chance to Register for September Bar School
Today is the last day to sign up for September's Bar Essentials Bar School: Time Management featuring BLI keynote speaker Michael Brandwein.

Scholarships Available for 2016 ABA BLI
The ABA is offering five scholarships to help presidents-elect and other upcoming leaders of small bar associations attend the 2016 Bar Leadership Institute, March 16-18. The application deadline is Wednesday, January 13.

New Initiative Highlights Pro Bono Celebration
The National Celebration of Pro Bono will be held October 25-31. A new event this year, And Justice for All: An ABA Day of Service, an initiative of ABA President Paulette Brown, will recognize the pro bono contributions of bar associations, lawyers, and other legal organizations. Bars can participate here.

Law Day 2016 Theme Announced
The 2016 Law Day theme will recognize the 50th anniversary of landmark U.S. Supreme Court case Miranda v. Arizona.

Bar Leaders Roundtable to Discuss Solos and Small Firms
A late September gathering of bar leaders in Boston, organized by the ABA Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division, will address best practices in serving solo and small firm practitioners.

Resources

State Bar of California 'Walks the Walk' on Bias
The State Bar of California is offering bar associations a complimentary copy of the film 'Walk the Walk' as a tool to fight bias and discrimination. Designed for use in CLE programs, the film features scenarios at a fictionalized law firm, drawn from interviews with lawyers working in various practice settings.

To receive a free DVD, facilitator guide and accompanying materials, contact Patricia Lee, Special Assistant for Diversity, at patricia.lee@calbar.ca.gov, or call (415) 538-2240.

Bureau Offers Ethics Speaker Suggestions
The ABA's Professional Responsibility Speaker's Bureau offers speaker ideas to organizations presenting ethics-related programs.

The Leader's Journey: A Guide to Discovering the Leader Within
A new book examines the core values of leadership through quotes from successful leaders.

Magna Carta Educational Traveling Exhibit Visits Kentucky, Missouri
The Kentucky Bar Association will host the ABA traveling exhibit on Magna Carta
this month, with the Springfield (MO) Metropolitan Bar Association to follow in October. Bar associations nationwide are invited to host the exhibit in their area. Contact lawlibrary@americanbar.org for more information.

Awards

Nominations Open for Women Lawyers Awards
Nominations are being accepted for the 2016 Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Awards. The awards honor women lawyers who have excelled in their field and have paved the way to success for other women lawyers. Submissions are due December 4.

Policy & Legislation

ABA Expresses Support for Electronic Materials Law
The ABA is urging states to adopt the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA), a uniform state law that ensures the accuracy of online legal material.

ABA Declines Indiana Law School Approval Request
The ABA has declined to grant accreditation to Indiana Tech Law School in Fort Wayne, IN.

ABA to Amend Model Rule
The Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility is drafting amendments to ABA Model Rule of Professional Conduct 8.4. The amendments would bring the anti-bias provision now in Comment [3] into the black letter of the Rule.

ABA Adjusts Law School Approval Standards
The ABA has approved changes to its Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools, and is reviewing several others. Suggestions regarding the standards should be sent by September 11 to jr.clark@americanbar.org.

People

California Names New ED
Elizabeth R. Parker is the new executive director of the State Bar of California as of September 1.

For Your Members

CLE Program to Preview Upcoming Supreme Court Term
A free CLE program on September 21 will offer expert insight on the U.S. Supreme Court Term that begins in October.

The Paralegal's Guide to Professional Responsibility
A newly updated guide reviews ethics issues relevant to paralegals and other employees of law-related organizations. This fourth edition features updates and a new chapter on communications.