



Top News

BLI 2017 Early Registration to Close

Early registration will close next week, on January 31, for the ABA's signature conference for bar leaders. More than 300 are expected to attend the [2017 Bar Leadership Institute](#), to be held March 15-17 in Chicago.

Access to Justice Headlines Now Available in The Bridge

The ABA has launched a [new publication](#) to replace longtime newsletter *Legal Services Now*. Called *Access to Justice Headlines*, the new monthly will cover a wide range of legal services topics. A link will be included in each issue of *The Bridge*.

New ABA Checklist Aims to Make Vendor Partnerships Safer

The ABA Cybersecurity Legal Task Force recently released a [checklist](#) that bars and their members can use anytime they are considering a new venture with an outside partner.

ABA BOG Report Highlights Recent ABA Activities

ABA Executive Director Jack Rives has released his [January 2017 report](#) to the association's Board of Governors.

ABA Center for Innovation Launches Fellows Program

Applications are being accepted for the ABA's inaugural [Fellows Program](#), sponsored by the new ABA Center for Innovation. The program features two types of fellowships that allow recent law school graduates and others to work at ABA headquarters in Chicago, and work with creative thinkers from around the country who are addressing critical needs in the legal sector. The application deadline is January 31.

Resources

Law Day 2017 Planning Guide Now Available

A [planning guide](#) shows bars how to prepare a Law Day 2017 program or article on the theme *The Fourteenth Amendment: Transforming American Democracy*.

ABA Launches Grant Program to Help Immigrant Children

The ABA is offering grants up to \$1,000 to help bar associations train attorneys to represent unaccompanied immigrant children pro bono. The grants, sponsored by the ABA Working Group on Unaccompanied Minor Immigrants, can be used to cover expert speakers, space, CLE accreditation, and other expenses.

Applications can be emailed to juliet.gilbert@americanbar.org, and should explain: 1) the amount of funds requested, 2) the need for financial assistance, 3) how the funds will be used, 4) the need for training, and 5) estimated capacity to recruit pro bono attorneys.

For more information, contact Juliet Gilbert at 312-988-5710 or juliet.gilbert@americanbar.org.

Jan 2017, Issue 73

CATEGORIES

[Top News](#)

[Resources](#)

[Awards](#)

[Policy & Legislation](#)

[People](#)

[For Your Members](#)

[Archives](#)

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JAN 30 | [Register](#)

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

1/31 - 2/4/17

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

Miami

Contact: [NABE/NCBP/NCBF Registration](#)

2/1 - 2/7/17

[ABA Midyear Meeting](#)

Miami

Contact: [ABA Meetings & Travel](#)

2/4/17

[12th Annual SCLAID Summit on Public Defense](#)

Miami

Contact: [Geoff Burkhart](#)

3/15 - 3/17/17

[ABA Bar Leadership Institute](#)

Chicago

Contact: [Magdalena Bieniek](#)

5/4 - 5/6/17

[2017 Equal Justice Conference](#)

Pittsburgh

Contact: [Julie McCullough](#)

5/31 - 6/2/17

Awards

Chicago Bar Honored by Legal Access Awards

The Chicago Bar Foundation has received meritorious recognition from the [2017 Louis M. Brown Awards for Legal Access](#). The bar was honored for its Pricing Toolkit, which provides information about alternative billing structures for lawyers representing underserved populations.

Nominations Open for Legal Services Award

Nominations are being accepted for the [ABA Pro Bono Publico Award](#). The award honors lawyers and legal organizations that improve or deliver volunteer legal services to the poor. Applications are due March 3.

Nominations Sought for Tweed Award

The ABA is accepting nominations for the [2017 Harrison Tweed Award](#), which recognizes bar association projects and programs that increase legal services access for the poor. The nomination deadline is March 31.

Nominations Open for Public Lawyer Awards

The Government and Public Sector Lawyers Division is accepting nominations for its [2017 National Awards](#). The awards recognize extraordinary achievements of public lawyers and law offices. Nominations are due April 10.

Policy & Legislation

Forum to Discuss Model Rules Amendments

The ABA will host a [public forum](#) on Friday, February 3 at the ABA Midyear Meeting on a proposal to amend ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct on lawyer advertising and other issues. Comments should be submitted by March 1 to modelruleamend@americanbar.org.

People

Three New State Bar EDs Appointed; Harkness to Retire

Pamela McDevitt [has been named executive director](#) at the New York State Bar Association. Further west, Rick Bannister has left his position as assistant executive director at the Ohio State Bar Association.

In the south, Jack Harkness has [announced his retirement](#) from The Florida Bar after 37 years. Phillip McCallum [has been named executive director](#) of the Alabama State Bar. And Deanne Mosley [has been named ED](#) at the Mississippi Bar.

For Your Members

The Federal Administrative Procedure Sourcebook, Fifth Edition 2016

This [book](#) is written for both lawyers and non-lawyers at federal agencies, private practice and for anyone who needs to know more about key federal procedural statutes.

Get the Most Out of Retirement: Checklist for Happiness, Health, Purpose and Financial Security

This [book](#) from the ABA Senior Lawyers Division walks you through the process of planning retirement, from crafting a budget and managing money to last a lifetime to simplifying your life so you can really focus on what you want to do next.

[Back to Top](#)

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