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## Top News

### BLI 2018 Registration Closing Soon

Just over two weeks remain to register for the ABA's signature conference for bar leaders. More than 300 are expected to attend the [2018 Bar Leadership Institute](#), to be held March 14-16 in Chicago.

### Bar Services Announces Openings for Popular Planning Service

Limited openings are available for [strategic planning sessions](#) led by the ABA Division for Bar Services. Planning sessions create a common framework for volunteer and staff decision-making, energize the board, and build momentum for positive change.

Openings are available between April and July 2018. Special pricing is available for bars with annual budgets smaller than \$750,000.

### Division for Bar Services Releases Benchmarks Survey

The [2017 State & Local Bar Benchmarks Survey](#) provides a blueprint of the membership, leadership, and governance structures of more than 160 bar associations. Groupings by bar size and type make comparisons with peers effortless. The publication also offers an analysis of significant changes from previous surveys. Contact [Joanne O'Reilly](#) with questions about the survey.

### Equal Justice Conference Offers Bar Leader Scholarships

[Scholarships for bar leaders](#) are available for the [2018 Equal Justice Conference](#). The conference, scheduled for May 9-12 in San Diego, addresses the delivery of legal services to low-income individuals. Scholarship applications are due February 12.

## Awards

### Chicago Bar Foundation Wins Legal Access Award

The Chicago Bar Foundation is the recipient of the [2018 Louis M. Brown Award for Legal Access](#). The foundation was honored for its work advancing access to underserved people with moderate incomes. The award was presented at the luncheon of the National Conference of Bar Presidents on February 2 in Vancouver.

### 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 2.

### Nominations Sought for Diversity Awards

Nominations are being accepted for the [2018 CLEO EDGE Awards](#). The awards honor individuals, law schools, and legal organizations that have contributed to education, diversity, and greater equality in the legal profession. In celebration of its 50th anniversary, CLEO will recognize and

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## BAR SCHOOL

**FEB 26** | [Register](#)

Design for the Non-Designer

**MAR 26** | [Register](#)

Belly Up to the Bar: Modern Marketing Techniques to Bring Your Members Closer

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**3/14 - 3/16/18**

[ABA Bar Leadership Institute](#)  
Chicago  
Contact: [Karyn Linn](#)

**4/25 - 4/27/18**

[2018 National Legal Malpractice Conference](#)  
Washington, DC  
Contact: [Jamie Brown](#)

**5/9 - 5/10/18**

[Internet of Things National Institute](#)  
Washington, DC  
Contact: [Barbara Mitchell](#)

**5/10 - 5/12/18**

[2018 Equal Justice Conference](#)  
San Diego  
Contact: [ejc@americanbar.org](mailto:ejc@americanbar.org)

**5/30 - 6/1/18**

[Nat'l Conference on Professional Responsibility](#)  
Louisville, KY  
Contact: [Center for Professional Responsibility](#)

honor a total of 150 individuals in these three areas. Applications are due by March 16.

### Nominations Sought for Professionalism Awards

Nominations are open for the [2018 E. Smythe Gambrell Awards](#), honoring excellence and innovation in professionalism programs. Applications are due March 31.

### Nominations Sought for Tweed Award

The ABA is accepting nominations for the [2018 Harrison Tweed Award](#), which recognizes bar association projects and programs that increase legal services access for the poor. The application deadline is April 2.

### Nominations Sought for Senior Lawyer Award

Nominations are being accepted for the [2018 John H. Pickering Achievement Award](#). The award honors career-long service by a senior lawyer or judge to the legal profession and the community. Applications are due February 28.

### Nominations Open for Criminal Justice Section Awards

Nominations are being accepted for the [ABA Criminal Justice Section Awards](#), which recognize outstanding criminal and juvenile justice practitioners. Applications are due March 23.

### Nominations Open for Legal Opportunity Scholarship Fund

Nominations are being accepted for the [ABA Legal Opportunity Scholarship Fund](#) for the 2018-2019 academic year. The fund provides racial and ethnic minority students up to \$15,000 toward law school tuition. Applications are due April 6.

### Nominations Open for Public Lawyer Awards

The Government and Public Sector Lawyers Division is accepting nominations for its [2018 National Awards](#). The awards recognize extraordinary achievements of public lawyers and law offices. Applications are due April 9.

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## Calls to Action

### ABA Urges Bars to Reach Out to Homeless Youth

The ABA is encouraging bar associations to [host and register events](#) serving homeless youths on or around April 12, the International Day for Street Youth. The event is part of the association's National Celebration of Pro Bono.

### ABA Rallies Judges for Public Outreach Initiative

The ABA encourages judges, active and retired, to teach the public about the rule of law and the vital work of courts during [National Judicial Outreach Week](#), March 4-10.

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## Policy & Legislation

### ABA Proposes Revisions to Lawyer Advertising Standards

The ABA Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility has proposed [several changes to the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct on lawyer advertising](#). Written comments on the proposal should be sent by March 1 to [modelruleamend@americanbar.org](mailto:modelruleamend@americanbar.org).

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## People

### Five ED Changes

**6/1 - 6/2/18**

[Nat'l Forum on Client Protection](#)  
Louisville, KY  
Contact: [Selina Thomas](#)

**6/5 - 6/7/18**

[Pre-Trip to Normandy](#)  
Normandy, France  
Contact: [Tami Behland](#)

**6/7 - 6/10/18**

[ABA Paris Sessions](#)  
Paris, France  
Contact: [Tami Behland](#)

**10/25 - 10/26/18**

[2018 National Aging and Law Conference](#)  
Alexandria, VA  
Contact: [David Godfrey](#)

## RECOMMENDED

[Washington Letter](#)

[Access to Justice](#)

[Headlines](#)

[ABA Membership](#)

## BOOKS FOR BARS

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



Jennifer Buettner is the new ED at the Birmingham Bar Association. In Florida, Jackie Kiviat has taken the same position at the Dade County Bar Association. And Chloe Woods is the new ED at the Virgin Islands Bar Association.

Heading west, the State Bar of New Mexico has named Richard Spinello as its new ED, while Stanley Bissey has taken the same position at the Los Angeles County Bar Association.

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## For Your Members

### Speakers Sought for Aging and Law Conference

The ABA Commission on Law and Aging is accepting **speaker proposals** for its 2018 National Aging and Law Conference, October 24-26. Proposals are due March 2.

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