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Von: YourABA Editor [YourABA@abanet.org]
Gesendet: Samstag, 7. August 2010 07:59
An: Wolf M. Nietzer
Betreff: YourABA - Annual Meeting Special Bulletin - Friday



Updates from the 2010 Annual Meeting in San Francisco



Annual meeting attendees receive update on association's legislative advocacy efforts

Speaking to attendees at the Legislative and Governmental Advocacy Update session yesterday, ABA President-Elect Stephen Zack outlined a number of issues on which the ABA Governmental Affairs Office has been active. Specifically, Zack mentioned funding for the Legal Services Corporation, the Red Flags Rule and judicial compensation. [Read more...](#)

Judicial vacancies leading to "justice denied," states American Bar Association

The U.S. Senate, on opening day of the American Bar Association Annual Meeting, confirmed Elena Kagan as an U.S. Supreme Court associate justice. Still, approximately 100 federal bench vacancies remain open. In a letter sent Thursday to the White House and leading senators on both sides of the aisle, ABA President Carolyn B. Lamm wrote that in many jurisdictions, "Persistent vacancies make it impossible for the remaining judges on the court to give each case the time it deserves." [Read more...](#)

e-Lawyer: A must for today's lawyers

The delivery of legal services is shifting to the Internet, yet only 52 percent of solo practitioners have a website, said Richard S. Granat, chair of the American Bar Association e-Lawyer Task Force, sharing that lawyers have a long way to go in meeting the expectations of today's legal consumer. If lawyers do not embrace the Internet as a platform for service delivery, they will continue to lose market share to the alternatives. [Read more...](#)

Too many children without lawyers to represent them

Lawyers who represent children in dependency proceedings say it's time for these children—regardless of which state they live—to have a right to legal counsel. Meeting yesterday, a panel of children's rights advocates discussed eliminating the barriers that prevent lawyers from representing these children in life-impacting legal proceedings. [Read more...](#)

Representing LGBT couples in dissolution proceedings presents special challenges

Lawyers who represent lesbian, gay, transgender or bisexual clients need to be aware of the political and social climate surrounding dissolutions of their committed relationships. In

“Emerging Legal & Social Issues in Same-Sex Dissolutions,” panelists provided helpful information for attorneys who represent LGBT clients, including considerations to take into place during mediation or collaborative lawyering. [Read more...](#)

[ABA program explores public service trend among deferred associates](#)

Last year’s economic slump left some new graduates holding deferral notices instead of paychecks; and for many of them, deferred start dates provided the perfect opportunity to cut their legal teeth by providing *pro bono* services to those in need. The trend was explored yesterday during “Law Firm Legal Aid: Where Are We One Year Later?” [Read more...](#)

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