

Issue 21, June 14, 2016

Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association Launches First-of-Its-Kind Diversity & Inclusion Initiative

During and immediately after the recession, diversity and inclusion programs at bar associations and in the profession were sometimes axed as a luxury. But those days are over, says the vice president of diversity and inclusion for the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association. With the view that diversity and inclusion are necessary to the survival of the profession, the CMBA has launched a major initiative that [Crain's Cleveland Business](#) says is the first of its kind for the bar. Survey results show that only about 4 percent of equity and non-equity partners of the responding firms are people of color. What else emerged from the survey, and what are the next steps?



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Trouble in Kansas: With State Supreme Court under Fire, Chief Justice Keeps a Cool Head

Kansas has a long history of less-than-smooth sailing when it comes to politics and the judiciary. Recent high-profile rulings in cases regarding public school funding and the death penalty have once again caused the state Supreme Court to be viewed with hostility, and its justices to be called “activist judges” — or worse. [KLC Journal](#) talks at length with Chief Justice Lawton Nuss about how he’s managing to stay above the fray while also participating in the debate when necessary, rather than ignoring it in hopes that it will go away.

ABA Webinar Offers Practical Guidance for Lawyers in Disaster Relief Efforts

For those who survive it, a disaster —whether natural or manmade— is often among the biggest challenges they’ve ever faced. But disasters can pose challenges for lawyers, too, as they struggle to piece together practical answers to the question, “How can I help?” In an ABA webinar on June 22, experts who have been involved with disaster-related legal response efforts will give you a clear picture of how legal services fit into an emergency response, and how lawyers can most effectively — and ethically — step in to assist. Attendees can also earn 1.5 general CLE credit hours. Make sure to [register](#) today.

New Leaders: It’s Not about You ... But You Play a Powerful Role in Improving Board Culture

New or incoming board chairs (and presidents) should think less about their personal agenda and more about the “board culture” — whether the board is governing the organization as effectively as it can, and whether it is always learning and moving forward rather than stagnating and stalling out. But how do you get there if your current culture is based on “my year,” “we’ve always done it that way,” or other well-known obstacles to good governance? [BoardSource](#) highlights a two-step task and an eight-item to-do list that can help you get moving in the right direction.

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