

New Practice Management Program in Indiana

Issue 61, April 25th, 2017

Indiana State Bar Builds New LPM Program

With Legal Zoom, Avvo, and the like not going away, and more states adding a “duty of technological competence,” it seems clear that understanding technology is an inescapable part of any lawyer’s future. That’s why last fall, the Indiana State Bar Association’s Futures Committee sought and received approval from the bar’s House of Delegates to add a new law practice management program. Now, the program is beginning to take shape — and it has a coordinator. What experience does Bryan Fisher bring to this new role, and what are his plans for helping members embrace the future? [The Indiana Lawyer](#) takes a closer look.

Bill Henderson’s Blog Will Shut Down ... But Don’t Panic!

In other news regarding both Indiana and the future of the profession, Indiana University law professor Bill Henderson says he plans to end his popular Legal Whiteboard blog on April 30. But followers may be relieved to know that he’s also starting a new blog called Legal Evolution, which will focus on “lagging legal productivity in a world of rapidly increasing complexity.” An article at [ABAJournal.com](#) offers more details about Henderson’s new blog, and where to find it.

[VIDEO] Anderson Cooper Examines NOLA Public Defenders’ Refusal of Felony Cases

Faced with chronic underfunding for his too-small staff, Derwyn Bunton, chief public defender for New Orleans, made an unusual decision sometime last year: The city’s public defenders are refusing felony cases such as rapes, robberies, and murders, as a form of protest. Granted, 50 lawyers would be hard pressed to handle 22,000 cases a year — the shared workload that led Bunton to this breaking point. But isn’t having an overworked lawyer better than sitting in jail with no lawyer at all? That’s one question Anderson Cooper asked, in a segment for 60 Minutes. Watch or read the story at [cbsnews.com](#) to find out how some of NOLA’s public defenders answered this question, and what they had to say about the crisis in general.

Device-Free Time: The New Work-Life Balance?

Here’s a quick snapshot of our collective obsession with smartphones and other devices: The average American checks his or her phone 46 times per day. Ninety percent of us use our phones in the bathroom. Almost that same percentage of American workers reports chronic body pain as a result of their phone-use posture, and 82 percent said the presence of a phone “deteriorated” the quality of a recent conversation they had. Does that sound unhealthy, and also ... familiar? At [Harvard Business Review](#), Charlotte Lieberman explains why device-free time, or tech-body balance, may be just as important as work-life balance — and what happened when she scaled back her own phone use during a two-week experiment.

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