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Welcoming Trend Among New Law School Deans

New Group of Law School Deans Marks Nationwide Trend Toward Diversity

At law schools across the country, there's been a recent wave of new deans who are women, people of color, or both. Last month, the law schools at Stetson University and University of Cincinnati respectively appointed as deans Michele Alexandre and Verna Williams, both of whom are black. This month, Jenny Martinez, who is Hispanic, will assume her new role as dean of Stanford Law School, and this summer, G. Marcus Cole, who is black, will become the first nonwhite dean of the University of Notre Dame Law School. What are some other recent and upcoming dean appointments that are part of this trend? and what could it mean, in the big picture? Find out at law.com.

Anthem, Indiana Legal Services Pilot Program to Help Medicaid Patients with Legal Needs

Via a grant to Indiana Legal Services, health insurance company Anthem will help provide access to legal services for Medicaid beneficiaries in 18 counties in central Indiana. The yearlong pilot program, which will not be limited to Anthem members, will connect any Medicaid patients in those counties with legal help involving housing issues, child support, employment, and family law matters. A company executive says that the idea came about when Anthem realized that many of their Medicaid plan members' health-related challenges intersected with a host of other problems. [MedCityNews](#) has more details about how this pilot program will work.

ABA Commission on Immigration Calls for Sweeping Reforms on Adjudication System

Last month, the ABA Commission on Immigration released a report that takes a top-to-bottom look at the nation's immigrant adjudication system and calls for sweeping reforms in the following broad areas: restructuring the immigration court system; overhauling how immigrants are represented; and, through legislation, improving the role of law enforcement in the immigration system. In announcing the report's release, ABA President Bob Carlson said that fairness and equal justice under the law have been severely eroded within the immigration system and that "tinkering around the edges" won't be enough to fix it. To learn more about the reforms that the commission recommended, and to access the full report, visit [ABA Journal](#).

Survey of Solo and Small Firms Finds Persistent Lack of Action to Address Challenges

For the past three years, Thomson Reuters has surveyed firms of 29 or fewer lawyers and has found, as the surveys' authors put it, "a persistent lack of action." That is, solo and small firms recognize the challenges they face in matters such as getting paid, managing time, and keeping up with technology, but they do little to address them. However, some firms have made changes in the past two years; for example, 45 percent have adopted new technology, and 27 percent have changed their marketing strategy. At [LawSites](#), Bob Ambrogi offers an in-depth look at this year's report and shares several infographics that he finds especially compelling.



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