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Issue 238 | February 3

Who's a Legal Rebel?

ABA Journal Announces Legal Rebels for 2021: Do These Names Ring a Bell?

ABA Journal has announced its Legal Rebels Class of 2021, and two of the 10 names may be especially familiar to those within the bar world: John Lund and Jayne Reardon. Lund, a past president of the Utah State Bar, was honored along with Utah Supreme Court Justice Constandinos "Deno" Himonas for joint efforts that paved the way for their state to establish a "regulatory sandbox" to test new legal services business models. Reardon, a frequent speaker at meetings of the National Conference of Bar Presidents, was recognized for supporting innovation in legal services delivery through her role as executive director of the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism. Who else made the list this year?

State Bar of Texas to Offer Voluntary Implicit Bias Training for Lawyers

As the State Bar of Texas continues to reckon with online comments by President Larry McDougal that many found offensive, the bar's minimum continuing legal education committee will draft regulations for voluntary implicit bias training for lawyers. While some members of the bar's board of directors were disappointed that this training will not be mandatory, others at the January meeting said this could have led to resentment and pushback. At law.com, learn how the bar plans to review and accredit outside trainers' implicit bias courses and read an update on McDougal's initiative to offer facilitated conversations about racism for lawyers across the state.

National Conference of Bar Examiners: Board Approves Changes to Law Exam

Last Thursday, the Board of Trustees of the National Conference of Bar Examiners adopted a series of recommendations that will lead to a very different bar exam about five years from now?one that focuses more on testing lawyering skills and less on memorization. Among the biggest changes: The exam will be administered entirely on computer, rather than partially on paper as it is now, and a more integrated format (most closely resembling the current Multistate Performance Test) will ask examinees to use legal scenarios and fact patterns to produce multiple choice answers, short answers, and legal documents. Law.com has more details about what else will be different and what will stay the same.

New Issue of Bar Leader Looks at Burdens of Law School Debt

Law school debt is not a new problem, but it has gained more attention recently, thanks in part to a survey by the ABA Young Lawyers Division that helped illustrate how debt hinders lawyer well-being and even affects major life decisions, such as whether to have children. The January-February issue of Bar Leader takes a closer look at this problem and at possible solutions. Also, association management and membership expert (and past ABA Bar Leadership Institute faculty member) Sheri Jacobs shares her ideas on how bars can get 2021 off to a great start.

Register for the 2021 ABA Bar Leadership Institute

Have you registered yet for the 2021 ABA Bar Leadership Institute? You don't want to miss it! Register today, and then get ready to join us, virtually, March 17-19, 2021. The 2021 BLI will provide bar leaders with the tools to adapt and thrive during these uncertain times. Learn more about our mainstage speakers and other key programs here.



Learn more about the ABA Division for Bar Services

Read the latest issue of Bar Leader Magazine



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