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Issue 250 | May 5

**Future of the Bar Exam Commission in California** 

# New California Bar Exam Commission Will Consider Online Testing, Other Changes

A new committee, one of whose members is California Lawyers Association Executive Director Ona Dosunmu, has been tasked with considering changes to the California bar exam and making recommendations in 2022. One of the changes to be studied by the Joint Supreme Court/State Bar Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of the California Bar Exam is whether all or part of the two-day test should be administered online. The commission will also look into California's experience with a temporary provisional licensure program and will consider the National Conference of Bar Examiners' recent recommendation to refocus bar exams on problem solving and real-world practice. Bloomberg Law has more information.

#### **Law Society of Ontario Approves Regulatory Sandbox**

Last month, the Law Society of Ontario approved a ?regulatory sandbox,? making it the second bar organization in Canada to do so (the first was the Law Society of British Columbia). Among those in favor of the five-year pilot to encourage the development of innovative technological legal services in the province is legal sector analyst and technology expert Jordan Furlong, who said it shows a commitment to improving access to justice. Together, Furlong notes, the two provinces that now have sandboxes account for much of Canada's legal industry. What is the current status of legal innovation in Canada, and how will Ontario?s sandbox work? Find out at CBA/ABC National.

# A New 'Unicorn': Clio Receives \$110 Million Investment, Is Valued at \$1.6 Billion

Last week, legal technology firm Clio received a Series E investment of \$110 million at a valuation of \$1.6 billion, making it the first law practice management company to achieve "unicorn status"?meaning a privately held company worth \$1 billion or more. Before the announcement, Clio cofounder and CEO Jack Newton spoke with legal technology expert Robert Ambrogi about the investment and what it means for the company and for the broader market. The exclusive interview and podcast are at LawSites.

### If Unconscious Bias Training Doesn't Work, What Will?

Many researchers have found that unconscious bias training (UBT), which has become increasingly prevalent in the workplace within the past few years, makes little to no sustainable difference?and in fact, can even reinforce or amplify people's biases. What's the problem? In many cases, UBT is offered as a "crash course" that asks individuals to confront their own biases while organizational or systemic issues continue to go unaddressed. How are some human resources professionals reframing diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace to help bring about deeper, more lasting change? Learn more at Fast Company.

# What Do Members Need During COVID and Beyond? Join Us for a Free, One-Hour Webinar on May 20

What have lawyers experienced and needed during the COVID-19 pandemic, and how can

bar organizations prepare for how things will evolve as the worldwide health crisis comes to an end? To understand and to begin implementing changes, join the National Conference of Bar Presidents and the ABA Division for Bar Services on Thursday, May 20, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern on Zoom for Practice Forward Amid Covid-19 and Beyond. This free, one-hour program draws from and complements the "Practicing Law in the Pandemic and Moving Forward" survey report recently released by the ABA Coordinating Group on Practice Forward. Bar leaders are also encouraged to visit Practice Forward for continually updated tools and resources to help legal professionals move their practice forward during COVID-19 and beyond.



Learn more about the ABA Division for Bar Services

Read the latest issue of Bar Leader Magazine



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