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Another SCOTUS Test for Mandatory Bar Dues?

Petition in Case Against Mandatory Oregon State Bar Reaches U.S. Supreme Court

A petition on behalf of two lawyers who object to the Oregon State Bar's mandatory membership and use of dues has reached the U.S. Supreme Court. The court declined to hear similar petitions against the State Bar Association of North Dakota and the State Bar of Wisconsin, but the attorney in this case is taking a different approach. Rather than asking the court to overturn the *Keller* decision, the petition says that while *Keller* dealt with the use of mandatory dues for activities that were not germane to a bar's purpose, it did not set a binding precedent regarding the use of these dues for activities that are germane. [National Law Journal](#) has more details.

Regulatory Updates from California, Arizona, Utah

Should a regulatory sandbox be open to a wide range of businesses, or only to those for clients with limited means? That's the question confronting the State Bar of California's Closing the Justice Gap Working Group—and because of the state's size and influence, the answer could have nationwide implications. [Bloomberg Law](#) takes an in-depth look at the parameters that are being discussed, and what will happen next. Meanwhile, the Arizona Supreme Court has approved the first three entities to be licensed as alternative business structures in that state, after the court's decision last August to eliminate restrictions on nonlawyer ownership and on fee sharing. Learn more at [LawSites](#). Also at [LawSites](#), read about two nonprofit pilot programs that recently received approval to join Utah's sandbox and provide nonlawyer legal assistance to people with medical debt.

New Study from D.C. Bar, California Lawyers Association: Women Lawyers Drinking More, Feeling More Stressed Than Men

In a departure from most data on substance abuse patterns by gender, a study released last week by the D.C. Bar and the California Lawyers Association found that among lawyers surveyed, more women than men were exceeding guidelines for alcohol consumption. In fact, more than half of the women lawyers surveyed (55.9 percent) reported engaging in what's known as risky drinking, compared with 46.4 percent for men lawyers. Also, 25 percent of women lawyers said they were thinking of leaving the profession due to mental health concerns, compared with 17 percent of men lawyers. [Bloomberg Law](#) summarizes the findings and talks with Patrick Krill, an expert on attorney addiction and mental health who was a co-author of this study.

As the Legal Profession Ages, Will Dementia Become More of a Problem?

Over the last 10 years, the number of practicing lawyers over the age of 65 has increased by more than 50 percent. Meanwhile, more than one in nine people over 65 are diagnosed with Alzheimer's, the most common type of dementia, and the risk increases dramatically with age. Taken together, do these figures represent a crisis for the legal profession—and how prepared are disciplinary bodies, lawyer assistance programs, and others to deal with it? In audio and text, [Bloomberg Law](#) looks at this growing problem by telling the stories of

a few lawyers who suffered from dementia, and what happened when one younger lawyer reported her boss's decline.

New Speaker Series to Address Regulatory Changes, Access to Legal Services

Interested in learning more about recent and upcoming regulatory changes that affect the legal profession? A new quarterly speaker series called Redesigning Legal can help. Hosted by IAALS, the ABA Center for Innovation, the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, the ABA Standing Committee on the Delivery of Legal Services, and Legal Hackers, this series offers a variety of leaders' and experts' perspectives on access to justice and regulatory change. The first session, on Friday, June 9 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Eastern, will look at how judges can play a role in expanding access to legal services and access to justice. To learn more and to register at no cost, visit the [IAALS website](#).



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