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Bar Exam Data Shows Disparities in Passing Rate

Newly Released ABA Bar Exam Pass Rate Data for 2020 Shows Disparities in Race, Ethnicity

Among first-time bar exam takers in 2020, 87.65 percent of white candidates passed. For Black first-time exam takers, the pass rate was 66.28 percent; for Hispanics, it was 75.59 percent; and for Asians, it was 79.92 percent. There were also big differences among the numbers of first-time exam takers: Out of a total of 29,531, white candidates accounted for 19,453, compared with 2,328 Black candidates, 3,638 who were Hispanic, and 1,972 who were Asian. This data, along with similar figures for two-year pass rates and for other races and ethnicities, was released last week by the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. What were some of the other findings, and what did the section and the National Conference of Bar Examiners have to say about them? Find out at ABA Journal.

Are Remote Jurors Too Distracted to Deliver Fair Trials?

Is it time to resume in-person jury trials?and are virtual jury trials inherently unfair to litigants and lawyers? Some say that while there have been some challenges in getting used to this new format, it should be refined rather than abandoned because it can increase access to justice and make it easier for many prospective jurors to participate. But others have noted, along with at least one instance of "Zoom bombing," some serious concerns in terms of what jurors are doing while they're supposed to focus on the trial: vaping, eating, folding laundry, applying makeup, and walking around, for example. According to law.com, the issues came to a head in one particular trial in Houston, but the underlying questions affect jury trials across the country.

Surprising Ways Client and Member Insights Can Transform Boards, Organizational Culture

Most organizations want diversity on their boards. But one thing that gets in their way, writes Rick Moyers, an independent consultant to philanthropies and nonprofit organizations, is a top-down approach. That is, nonprofit leadership culture tends to be one in which board members are assumed to know best and not to need much input from members and other constituents? which means many individuals feel excluded from board service. At BoardSource Blog, Moyers shares examples of surprising insights some organizations gained through client feedback, and how those insights helped them transform their organizational culture, including their boards.

Three Examples from Corporate Sector Offer Do's and Don'ts in Describing Workplace to Job Prospects

How do you express your workplace culture to prospective employees? Whether it's friendly, challenging, collaborative, or fits some other descriptor, chances are, your mission statement alone isn't enough to tell job seekers and others what they need to know. A post from Propel offers some guidance, drawing on three examples from the corporate sector and how well or how poorly they convey each company's workplace culture.



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