

Is this email not displaying correctly? [View In Browser](#)



Issue 274 | October 27

Model Rule Change on Remote Practice?

Is Change Coming to ABA Model Rule on Remote Practice?

In December 2020, the ABA Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility issued an opinion that said lawyers can work remotely in jurisdictions where they're not licensed, as long as they only engage in law that they're authorized to practice. There may be more change coming: Chair Lynda Shely confirmed last week that the committee is currently mulling Model Rule 5.5 and will seek input from lawyers. This rule addresses unauthorized practice of law and the circumstances under which a lawyer can practice in a jurisdiction where they're not licensed. Several states (most recently, New Jersey) have relaxed their rules about remote practice during the pandemic; Model Rule 5.5 garnered some criticism even before COVID-19 for potentially limiting access to justice. [Bloomberg Law](#) has more details.

NALP Study: Law Grads Who Were First-Generation College Grads Lag Behind Peers in Job Search

When it comes to the job hunt, law grads who were first-generation college students don't fare as well as their law school peers who have at least one parent with a college degree? and they're employed in jobs requiring bar passage at a rate that's 11 percentage points lower than that of peers who have at least one parent with a JD. That's according to the annual Jobs & JDs report, released last week by the National Association for Law Placement (NALP). The most recent report, on 2020 law school graduates, was the first to look specifically at employment outcomes for JDs who were first-generation college graduates. What else did this year's study uncover? A [NALP news item](#) highlights some of the most noteworthy statistics.

Online Database Gathers, Makes Freely Available Federal Judges' Financial Disclosure Records

Earlier this month, a Wall Street Journal investigative report revealed that 131 federal judges broke the law by hearing cases in which they had a financial interest. Now, the data that was the foundation for that report is available for anyone to see: A nonprofit called the Free Law Project has created the first online database of federal judges' financial disclosures. The database contains more than 250,000 pages of disclosure records for every federal judge, justice and magistrate from 2011 to 2018 (and some files from as far back as 2003), with the 2019 disclosures available soon. What does the nonprofit's executive director and chief technology officer say about the process of collecting these records and how it could be improved? Find out at [LawSites](#).

Michigan Adopts Uniform Bar Exam but not Without Debate, Questions About Lack of State Focus

Michigan has joined the 40 other states that have adopted the Uniform Bar Exam, with both it and Pennsylvania slated to administer the UBE for the first time in July 2022. The decision earlier this month wasn't without some dissent: For example, one judge questioned the merits of assessing practical skills under the artificial constraints of a standardized test and also expressed dismay that there would not be a Michigan-specific component to the bar exam. [Law.com](#) has more information, including how another judge addressed those concerns in a concurring statement.



[Learn more about the ABA Division for Bar Services](#)

[Read the latest issue of Bar Leader Magazine](#)



This message was sent to &EMAIL;.
Your e-mail address will only be used within the ABA.
We do not sell or rent e-mail addresses.

American Bar Association
321 N Clark, Chicago, IL 60654-7598
800-285-2221 | 312-988-5522

[Update profile](#)

[E-mail preferences](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Contact Us](#)