



Issue 289 | March 2

Growing Concern about Cyberattacks

ABA Legal Technology Survey Report Shows Many Lawyers, Firms Not Doing all They Can to Prevent Cyberattacks

The ABA's 2021 Legal Technology Survey Report revealed a sobering statistic about cybersecurity: Among the respondents, 25 percent of law firms had been breached at some point. Because of the amount and type of data they work with, lawyers and law firms are natural targets for cybercriminals, say Sharon D. Nelson, John W. Simek, and Michael C. Maschke, all at computer security company Sensei Enterprises. The vast majority (80 percent) of solo lawyers said they had primary responsibility for their firms' security, a little more than half of all respondents said their firm had a data retention policy, and only 36 percent said they had an incident response plan. How does this square with the ABA Model Rules related to keeping clients' data safe? At [Attorney at Work](#), Nelson, Simek, and Maschke take a look at the rules and at some other statistics that reveal what they consider to be serious gaps.

Black Presidents of Four National Bar Organizations Share Thoughts on Historic Moment, How They Can Work Together

For the first time ever, four major national bar organizations have Black presidents: Reginald Turner at the American Bar Association, Douglas K. Burrell at DRI (the Defense Research Institute), Navan Ward Jr. at the American Association for Justice, and Judge Carlos Moore at the National Bar Association. All four presidents say that while they are enjoying this historic moment, more must be done to diversify the profession and bar leadership—not only in terms of Black lawyers, but also others who are currently underrepresented. The four presidents met in September 2021 and plan to meet again this month to discuss how they can work toward shared priorities, such as voting rights and police reform. [ABA Journal](#) talks with all four leaders and explores the history and current state of diversity in the profession and in bar leadership.

Pew Research: Many U.S. Workers Now Prefer to Work at Home, Regardless of Pandemic Concerns

What began as a necessity in 2020 appears to have become a preference: Among U.S. workers whose jobs can be done from home, 59 percent are working from home all or most of the time—and 78 percent of them say they'd like to continue doing so even after the pandemic ends. Even factoring in the delta and omicron variants, in a January 2022 survey by Pew Research Center, fewer workers than in October 2020 cited fear of coronavirus exposure as a major reason they're working at home all or most of the time—down to 42 percent from 57 percent. How does being at home affect work? Many at-home workers said it was easier to get their work done, meet deadlines, and maintain work-life balance but also that they felt less connected to their coworkers. A [summary from Pew](#) shares many more details about the state of work today and how workers' preferences and motivations have changed since 2020.

New Study Looks at Reasons for Lack of Diversity in

Delaware Bench and Bar, Suggests 50 Steps that Can Help

Compared with much of the rest of the nation, Delaware has a higher proportion of people of color—but that has not led to a more diverse bench and bar. While 38.7 percent of the state's population are people of color, this is true of only 5.3 percent of partners and 11.6 percent of associates at law firms in Wilmington. These percentages for partners and associates are roughly half of the national averages and lower than the percentages in other nearby metropolitan areas outside the state. According to a report released last week by a committee co-chaired by the state's chief justice and another justice on the Delaware Supreme Court, there are major hurdles along every step of the way to becoming a lawyer—starting with a lack of civic education about the court system and legal processes and ending with the nation's most stringent bar exam. The committee (composed of judges, law professors, and law firm leaders) came up with 50 steps, ranging from small adjustments to systemic changes, aimed at increasing diversity while maintaining high standards for the profession. [Delaware Law Weekly](#) shares some of their ideas and a statement from Delaware State Bar Association President Kathleen Miller.



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

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

{{AA_HTML Manual - Chicago Footer}}