

BarLeader

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Maryland Closer to Implementing Mandatory CLE Courses

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The Supreme Court of Maryland released a report recommending the implementation of mandatory CLE for attorneys in the state. The work group consisted of attorneys, legal academics, and judges. The report also recommended that the state align itself with the CLE requirements of neighboring state jurisdictions in order to make it easier for attorneys practicing in multiple states to fulfill requirements. Read the full report and recommendations at the [Maryland Courts](#) website.

Report: Public Defenders are Overworked

A new report states that public defenders are overworked and struggling to provide sufficient legal representation for their clients. A team of attorneys and researchers from a variety of public and private organizations—including the ABA—found that the 50-year-old guidelines for public defender caseloads are outdated and inadequate. The *National Public Defense Workload Study* recommends new standards for criminal defense attorney workloads. Read more about the report at the [ABA Journal](#) website.

What is your Dream New Staff Position?

Association work often requires leaders to respond to current trends, and that sometimes requires creating new staff positions. Associations Now asked a variety of association leaders what new position they would like to create in their organization to help them better fulfill their mission. Their responses touched on a variety of needs: increasing non-dues revenue, creating more staff development opportunities, and being more responsive in the digital space. Look deeper into what other association managers are saying at [Associations Now](#).

Make Your Members Year-Round Advocates

The integration of virtual meeting technology and social media into the professional world has given associations another tool in advancing their mission. Margarita Valdez Martinez, director of policy and advocacy at the American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy, shares three ways she has leveraged technology to assist advocacy efforts. Read the interview with Martinez in [Associations Now](#).

Did you know about the ABA Sustainable Business Model Task Force?

The Task Force, established by the ABA Board of Governors at the 2023 Midyear Meeting, is undertaking a holistic review of dues, membership, non-dues revenue, communications, products, relevance in the market, structure, and finances, among other areas. The Task Force will be conducting focus groups and has created a mailbox to receive feedback across all segments of the ABA and the legal profession. Please take the opportunity to provide information on the three things you find most valuable about the ABA, as well as the things that could be improved upon. Send messages to sustainablebusinessmodel@americanbar.org



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