



Bar Leadership Institute

March 10-11, 2011 ▪ Chicago, IL
Hosted by the Standing Committee On Bar Activities & Services and the
Division for Bar Services

Meeting Profile

Overview of the Division for Bar Services (DBS) and the Standing Committee on Bar Activities & Services

The Division for Bar Services serves as the primary link between the ABA and state, local, and special focus bar associations. DBS provides support, products and services that facilitate the professional development of bar leaders and staff, and the exchange of information. The 15-member staff provides management and leadership expertise to its constituents.

The ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities & Services' key role is to maintain the ABA's partnership and support of state, local, and specialty bar associations and related organizations. In addition to overseeing operation for the Division for Bar Services, the committee carries out its mission through a variety of activities including sponsorship of the BLI, participation at bar association regional conferences and Co-sponsorship of the ABA Partnership Awards.

Mission of the Bar Leadership Institute (BLI)

Since its inception in 1976, ABA Bar Leadership Institute's mission has been to support the organized bar by educating new bar leaders on their roles and responsibilities. The BLI provides the best governance and communication models to bar leaders and supports the profession by encouraging inter-bar cooperation.

Goals of the BLI

This conference provides bar leaders with a unique experience, preparing them to lead their bar association in service to members, the legal profession and the public by:

- ◇ Growing their leadership skills.
- ◇ Introducing and reinforcing best practices in bar governance and communications.
- ◇ Facilitating the exchange of information and ideas among bar leaders.
- ◇ Familiarizing bar leaders with the resources available to them to enhance their experience and impact as bar leaders.
- ◇ Creating an ongoing positive relationship between participants and the ABA.

Attendee Profile

Total Attendance in 2010 - 316

109	Presidents-elect
84	Other officers
112	Executive staff
11	ABA officers, committee and section members

Organizations Represented - 155

46	State bar associations
94	Local bar associations
2	Bar foundations
8	National bar associations with special focus
5	State and local bar associations with special focus

About the ABA

With close to 400,000 members, the American Bar Association is the largest voluntary professional membership organization in the world. As the national voice of the legal profession, the ABA works to improve the administration of justice, promotes programs that assist lawyers and judges in their work, accredits law schools, provides continuing legal education, and works to build public understanding around the world of the importance of the rule of law.

Relationship of State, Local, and Special Focus Bar Associations to the ABA

State, local, and special focus bar associations are independent organizations, each with their own boards of directors and identities. They are not formally affiliated with the ABA in a chapter-type arrangement. ABA bar association constituents that meet certain size criteria are represented in the ABA's policy-making body, the House of Delegates.

Bar Associations

There are two basic types of bar associations, unified and voluntary. There are 34 unified state bar associations. In unified bar states, attorneys must be members of the state bar in order to practice law in that jurisdiction. In many unified states, the bar exercises regulatory authority over lawyers. Membership in other bar associations is voluntary. The general purposes of most bar associations includes the provision of continuing legal education, promoting access to justice, fair and impartial courts, and professionalism, and educating the public about the rule of law.

Hot Issues Facing the Organized Bar

- ◇ Continuing relevance to four generations of members.
- ◇ Threats to fairness and impartiality of the courts.
- ◇ Delivery of legal services to the poor and those of modest means.
- ◇ Serving members in a tight economy.
- ◇ Diversity.
- ◇ Globalization of the practice of law.

Meeting Logistics

Bar Leadership Institute Location

Chicago Marriott Downtown
540 North Michigan Avenue, (Driveway Entrance on 541 North Rush Street)
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Phone: 1-312-836-0100 Fax: 1-312-836-6139

Business Center- FedEx Kinko's
24-Hour – Self-service
7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Full service Phone: 312.832.0090

Registration

7th Floor Registration Desk
Wednesday, March 9 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 10 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday, March 11 7:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Room Set-up

Classroom/Theater unless otherwise specified.

Materials Format for Speakers

Electronic (Please limit your materials to ten pages).
PowerPoint presentations should be in their original format.

Dress

Business attire

Special Events

Please join us at the reception Thursday evening, March 10, at the Chicago Marriott Downtown.

Staff Contact

Karyn Linn
Phone: 312.988.5350
Email: linnk@staff.abanet.org

Erin Wellin
Phone: 312.988.5349
Email: welline@staff.abanet.org