#### **Basic Training & Beyond**

June 5, 2021

Is this right for me?

Getting started.

The business of the small firm.

Managing risk.

#### Afternoon session

Client relations.

Productivity & technology.

Marketing.

#### 1,352,027 US licensed attorneys

182,296 in New York State

170,117 in California

111,359 in the DC Bar

91,244 in Texas

78,448 in Florida



#### **May Distribution Report**



Queried 06/01/2021

FirmPtc

Other

Gavernment

Corporate

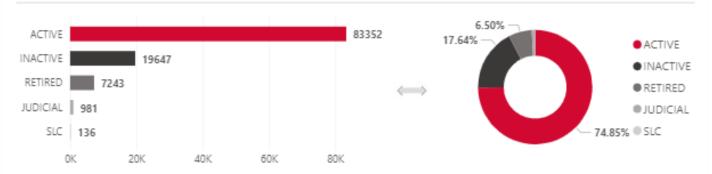
NonProfOrgAcademia

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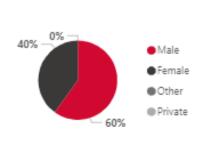
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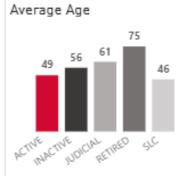
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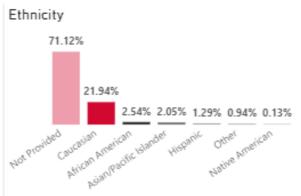


Induction Method



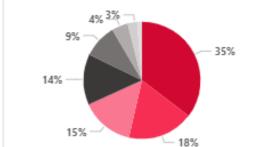


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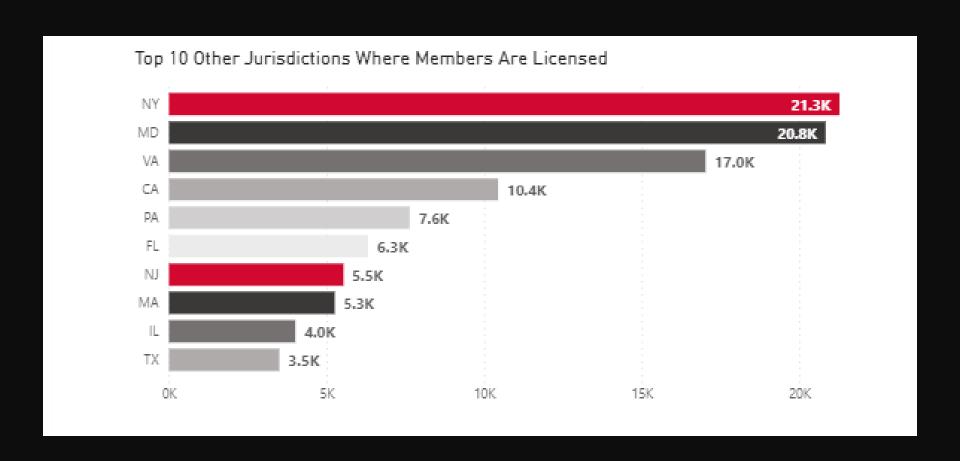
### 17.08% 0.04% • Motion • Exam

82.88%



Practice Industry

#### Where DC Bar members are licensed



#### Is small firm law for me?

It's a tough economy

It's a tough profession

Competition is intense

Expect an abundance of challenge & adventure

# The public's perception of lawyers

Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields -- very high, high, average, low or very low? How about -- [RANDOM ORDER]?

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low	No opinion
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Nurses	41	48	10	1	*	*
Medical doctors	27	50	19	2	1	*
Grade school teachers	26	49	17	5	2	*
Pharmacists	20	51	23	4	1	*
Police officers	16	36	30	11	7	*
Judges	9	34	40	12	4	1
Clergy	10	29	41	11	4	4
Nursing home operators	8	28	43	15	4	1
Bankers	5	24	48	16	5	*
Journalists	6	22	31	18	22	1
Lawyers	3	18	48	24	6	*
Business executives	2	15	46	26	10	1
Advertising practitioners	1	9	45	31	12	1
Car salespeople	1	7	53	29	8	*
Members of Congress	1	7	29	39	24	

GALLUP, DEC. 1-17, 2020

#### Historical view 1976 - 2017

9<sup>th</sup> most dishonest in this MoneyWise survey

Lawyers

Very high         High         Average         Low         Very low         No opinion         Very high/High           2019 Dec 2-15         4         18         49         19         9         *         22           2018 Dec 3-12         3         16         51         21         7         1         19           2017 Dec 4-11         4         14         53         19         9         1         18           2016 Dec 2-6         4         17         44         25         9         1         21           2014 Dec 8-11         5         16         45         22         12         1         21           2014 Dec 8-11         5         16         45         22         12         1         20           2012 Nov 26-29         4         15         42         28         10         1         19           2011 Nov 28-Dec 1         3         16         43         27         10         1         19           2011 Nov 19-21         4         13         47         24         11         1         17           2000 Nov 19-21         4         13         45         25         12 <td< th=""><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th></td<>								
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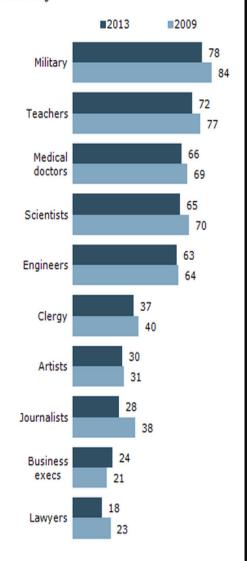
GALLUP

# Contribution to society's well-being

We are last ->

#### Trend in Perceived Contribution

% saying each group contributes "a lot" to society's well-being



Source: Pew Research Center surveys March 21-April 8, 2013 and April 28-May 12, 2009. Q6a-j. Responses of those who said some, not very much, nothing at all and those who did not give an answer are not shown.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



Starting Your Business V

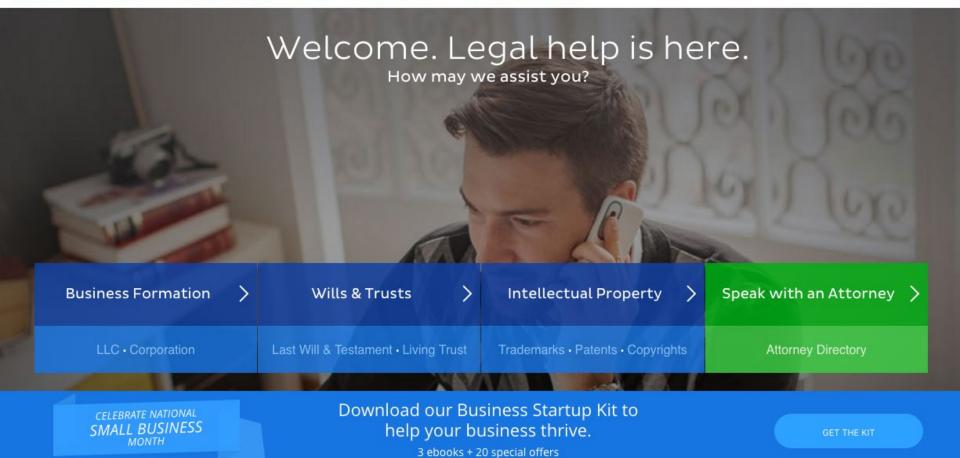




Running Your Business V

Wills & Trusts V

Personal & Family V



### Want to know how the legal profession "created" LegalZoom?

#### Read its S-1:

https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/0001286139/000119312521182939 /d146270ds1.htm

> As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 4, 2021. Registration No. 333-UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 FORM S-1 REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 LegalZoom.com, Inc. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter) 95-4752856 Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of (Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number) incorporation or organization 101 North Brand Bonlevard 11th Floor (Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of Registrant's principal executive offices) Dan Wernikoff Chief Executive Officer LegalZoom.com. Inc. 101 North Brand Boulevard, 11th Floor Glendale, California 91203 (323) 962-8600 (Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service) Noel Watson Chief Financial Officer C. Thomas Hopkins Jodie Bourdet Jonie Kondracki Adam J. Gelardi Latham & Watkins LLP Nicole Miller Cooley LLP
> 1333 2nd Street, Suite 400
> Santa Monica, California 90401
> (310) 883-6400 General Counsel 140 Scott Drive LegalZoom.com, Inc. 101 North Brand Boulevard, 11th Floor Glendale, California 91203 (323) 962-8600 Menlo Park, California 94025 (650) 328-4600 Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement. If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis nursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.  $\Box$ If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated files Smaller reporting company Emerging growth company If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act. CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

#### Is Amazon a competitor?

amazon

**Brand Registry** 

Transparency

Project Zero

**IP Accelerator** 

**Progress Report** 

FAQ

Contact us



amazon IPAccelerator

## Protect your intellectual property

Amazon IP Accelerator helps businesses more quickly obtain intellectual property (IP) rights and brand protection in Amazon's stores.





#### TrustandWill.com



Products ~

Pricing

Learn

# Estate planning made easy.

With plans starting at \$39, we've got something for everyone. See what's right for you.

**Get Started** 



#### **Utah Law on Call**

Utah Law on Call is a service from Northwest that provides instant legal advice over the phone to our new Utah clients. No receptionists. No paralegals. You talk immediately to a real Utah attorney for just \$9 a month.

Need a legal matter resolved as well? Our Utah Law on Call clients also get steeply discounted rates for full-blown legal work from our team of licensed Utah attorneys. This includes legal work in the areas of business, end of life planning, real estate, and much more.



For more information or to file a complaint, please visit sandbox.utcourts.gov

# Demand for small firm services is at an all time high

The challenge for the small firm lawyer is to:

Find the right problems

&

Get paid for solving them

How do you respond to a prospective client who shows up with this?

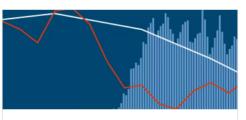


#### The time we are in



Clio's COVID-19 Impact Research Briefing: July 15

Clio's third briefing on the impact of COVID-19 shows steady recovery in June across most practice areas and states. As coronavirus cases continue to rise in the US, the impact remains uncertain for July.



Clio's COVID-19 Impact Research Briefing: June 17

Clio's second briefing on the impact of COVID-19 shows several weeks of decreased business for law firms, which has affected monthly billing volumes. Initial data in June however shows a sharp increase in new caseloads...



Clio's COVID-19 Impact Research Briefing: May 4

Clio's first briefing on the impact of COVID-19 indicates that legal professionals have been significantly affected by social restrictions and that—despite the ongoing need for legal services—many firms are seeing reduced client demand.

Clio Legal Trends Report 2021
Clio Legal Trends Report 2020
Clio Legal Trends Report 2019

#### Here is the Ben Glass response to

#### LegalZoom



#### Justice for Me

An affordable legal fee payment plan.

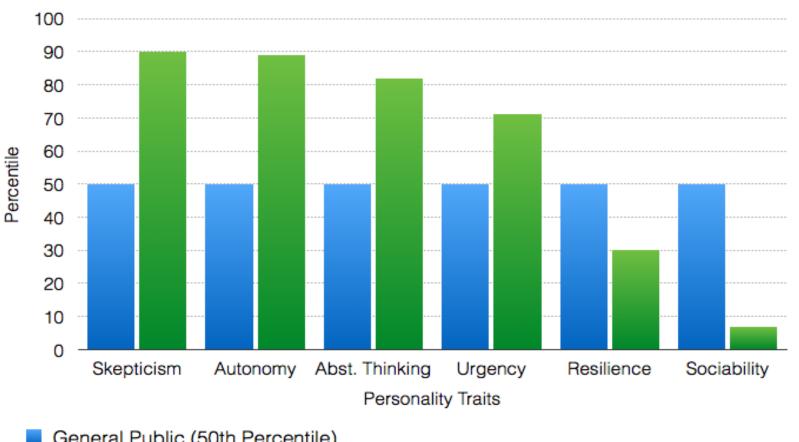
The lender's fee is like that charged by a credit card processor.

But is this a Rule 5.4(a) issue?

#### Characteristics

Are you empathetic?
Can you listen & observe?
Can you make the complex understandable?
Can you maintain boundaries?

#### The 6 Predominant Lawyer Personality Traits



General Public (50th Percentile)

Lawyers

From the research of Larry Richard, Ph.D.

# Small firm lawyers need high EQ (emotional intelligence)

What does high EQ look like?

#### High EQ Qualities

You are optimistic.

You are not a perfectionist.

You can balance work and play.

You embrace change.

You are not easily distracted.

You are empathetic.

You know your strengths & weaknesses.

You are self-motivated.

You don't dwell in the past.

You take care of yourself.

You set boundaries.

A person with EQ understand this truth:

You cannot impact a feeling with a fact.

You can only impact a feeling with another feeling.

A great resource to develop good decision making

The New York Times bestselling author of Brainstorm and Mindsight

Daniel J. Siegel, MD

AWARE

The Science and Practice of Presence

THE GROUNDBREAKING
MEDITATION PRACTICE

## Characteristics of the successful small firm lawyer

Are you an *idea* person & a *detail* person? Can you work a room? Can you close? Can you screen & talk about money? Can you be selective about clients & cases? Are you a life-long learner?

#### Empathy vs Sympathy

This video of Brene Brown explains the difference.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Evwgu369Jw

## An empathetic person is not afraid to be vulnerable

Here's a talk by Brene Brown on the <a href="mailto:power of vulnerability">power of vulnerability</a>

#### Necessary skills

**Active listener** 

Ability to negotiate

Effective writer

Good speaker

Ability to adapt

Quick study

Solution oriented

If you have clients who have suffered trauma, this is a resource to understand how trauma affects a person

### THE BODY KEEPS THE SCORE

BRAIN, MIND, AND BODY
IN THE HEALING OF TRAUMA



BESSEL VAN DER KOLK, M.D.

#### We are regulated

We must comply with the DC Rules of Professional Conduct;

And the rules of any other jurisdiction where we are barred;

And other codes, regulations and court rules;

And not become paralyzed by regulation.

Click here for free, confidential, informal ethics advice

#### We are DC Rule focused here

If you practice in another jurisdiction, it may be different there.

For example:

DC Rule 7.1 & 7.5 – marketing

DC Rule 1.8(d)(1) & (2) – client financial help

DC Rule 5.4(b) – non-lawyer equity partner

DC Rule 1.6 – confidences & secrets

#### Getting started

What's the problem you solve?

Why should a prospective client bring you into their life?

What is the skill set you need to attract and solve the problem of your ideal client?

Are these different skill sets?

#### Firm name

Rule 7.5 & 7.1

Avoid implying that you are more than you are

Using Firm is acceptable Ethics Opinion 332

Be cautious of and test drive the unique name

#### Unique name example: Ipseity Law

Ipseity, from the Latin word ipse, meaning "itself"

"Ipseity reminds me of my core self,

the me beneath all layers of adaptation & personality,

and that's why I choose Ipseity Law for the

name of my small firm."

#### The entity question

Know why you need an entity

Here are resources on forming a business in DC

Here is information from DCRA

Sole proprietor is an option

See Choosing the Business Entity at 29 of the e-

Manual

Sole proprietors, partners & self employed persons

pay estimated taxes

#### Your firm will need an EIN

Apply to the IRS for an employer id number

You will need an EIN to open your firm's business checking account

Avoid putting your SSN on a 1099 form

See page 31 in the e-Manual

IRS Employee vs Contractor Guidelines

#### Doing business in DC

Law firms do not need a business license from DCRA

You may need to file the FR 500 (e-Manual)

More information about the FR500 is here

#### Do you need an office in DC?

DC Rules do not require it

Be careful about an office in a jurisdiction

where you are not barred

See e-Manual, page 35, for more information

The office should be client-focused

Is client data safe & secure?

#### **Avoiding UPL**

Rule 5.5 bars a DC Bar member from the unauthorized practice of law in another jurisdiction

Every jurisdiction has its own <u>UPL rule</u>, regulation or code provision

See e-Manual - Avoiding the Unauthorized Practice of Law

When emails from Colorado became UPL in Minnesota

## ABA Legal Ethics Opinion 495 Lawyers Working Remotely - 12/16/20

"The Committee's opinion is that, in the absence of a local jurisdiction's finding that the activity constitutes the unauthorized practice of law, a lawyer may practice the law authorized by the lawyer's licensing jurisdiction for clients of that jurisdiction, while physically located in a jurisdiction where the lawyer is not licensed if the lawyer does not hold out the lawyer's presence or availability to perform legal services in the local jurisdiction or actually provide legal services for matters subject to the local jurisdiction, unless otherwise authorized."

### CARR DC Metro

Bethesda

4800 Hampden Lane Suite 200 Bethesda, MD

Capitol Hill

300 New Jersey Ave NW Suite 900 Washington, DC

City Center

1325 G Street NW Suite 500 Washington, DC

Clarendon

3033 Wilson Boulevard Suite 700 Arlington, VA

**Duke Street** 

1765 Duke Street Alexandria, VA

Dupont

1101 Connecticut Ave NW Suite 450 Washington, DC

Friendship Heights

5425 Wisconsin Avenue Suite 600 Chevy Chase, MD

Georgetown

1050 30th Street NW Washington, DC

King Street Station

1800 Diagonal Road Suite 600 Alexandria, VA

K Street

1717 K Street NW Suite 900 Washington, DC

Old Town

500 Montgomery Street Suite 400 Alexandria, VA

Pennsylvania Avenue

1701 Pennsylvania Ave NW Suite 200 Washington, DC

Reston Town Center

1818 Library Street Suite 500 Reston, VA

Rosslyn

1001 19th Street North Suite 1200 Arlington, VA

Suite 400 Washington, DC

Bethesda Friendship Heights Reston Town Center Dupont Georgetown K Street Tysons Boulevard City Center Pennsylvania Ave Capitol Hill The Willard Rosslyn Offices Clarendon Reagan National Tysons Boulevard 1750 Tysons Boulevard Old Town Suite 1500 McLean, VA The Willard Offices King Street Station Duke Stree 1455 Pennsylvania Ave NW

Plus 10 additional locations found across the United States. Learn more at www.carrworkplaces.com/locations

\*diagram not to scale

### <u>OSI</u>

Office Services Inc.

1629 K Street NW Suite 300

Washington, DC

20006

#### Google My Business & virtual office issues

# Engage with customers on Google for free

With a Google My Business account, you get more than a business listing. Your free Business Profile lets you easily connect with customers across Google Search and Maps.

**Google My Business** 

#### DC Bar Member Benefits

Carr WorkPlaces
Clio, MyCase, Zola
Fastcase
USI Affinity

#### The law firm business plan

Planning gives your focus, control, & direction

You will have an edge over the competition

You will think about your law enterprise as a system

Planning reduces risk & increases reward

See the e-Manual, page 25

Request the plan template, workbook & spreadsheets:

PMAS@dcbar.org

#### Here is why the plan is essential

It raises issues you will not have considered

It helps you to think like an entrepreneur

It puts you in your ideal client's problem recognition process

#### Build your network

Small firm support systems are important

Networking events & groups are vital

Mentoring can result

Referral networks are created

Informal groups, voluntary bars & Communities

And social media are some of the possibilities

Resources are located

#### Fees

How will you price your service?

Rule 1.5 says it must be reasonable

So you can profit, know what a productive hour is worth –

More in the e-Manual

Ask for the 168 hour time management spreadsheet

Time & effort are not necessarily value.

The client values the result.

### Covington's Eric Holder Bills at \$2,295 Hourly, New Legal Services Contract Shows

Covington and other firms have long been hired to conduct internal investigations at companies and other institutions, but in many instances the engagement letters, revealing rates and the scope of legal services, are not matters of public record.

By Mike Scarcella | April 16, 2021 at 02:19 PM

#### Clio Legal Trends 2020

#### **HOURLY RATES BY STATE**

State	Law Firms	Lawyers	Hourly Rate	State	Law Firms	Lawyers	Non-lawyers
AL	\$186	\$195	\$103	NC	\$224	\$247	\$125
AR	\$220	\$238	\$120	ND	\$234	\$256	\$153
AZ	\$228	\$254	<b>\$137</b>	NE	\$212	\$215	\$202
CA	\$308	\$338	\$171	NH	\$242	\$261	\$140
co	\$235	\$258	\$136	NJ	\$299	\$316	\$186
СТ	\$290	\$311	\$185	NM	\$216	\$239	\$132
DC	\$342	\$380	\$189	NV	\$280	\$312	\$166
DE	\$291	\$333	\$166	NY	\$338	\$357	\$223
FL	\$262	\$294	\$143	ОН	\$213	\$223	\$139
GA	\$252	\$268	\$156	ОК	\$206	\$223	\$120
IA	\$170	\$175	\$125	OR	\$223	\$247	\$126
ID	\$207	\$221	\$111	PA	\$268	\$281	\$187
IL	\$280	\$298	\$164	RI	\$192	\$203	\$106
IN	\$218	\$233	\$129	SC	\$208	\$239	\$110
KS	\$210	\$217	\$151	SD	\$175	\$180	\$107
KY	\$196	\$205	\$126	TN	\$212	\$228	\$117
LA	\$219	\$235	\$92	TX	\$253	\$286	\$139
MA	\$257	\$268	\$173	UT	\$223	\$240	\$135
MD	\$287	\$306	\$177	VA	\$264	\$282	\$161
ME	\$161	\$171	\$106	VT	\$209	\$222	\$105
MI	\$247	\$263	\$140	WA	\$251	\$280	\$145
MN	\$246	\$264	\$142	WI	\$222	\$229	\$172

#### Productive hour calculation

Monthly expenses X 12 \$5k professional, \$5k personal X 12 = \$120,000.00

\$120k / 50 weeks = \$2400.00

\$2400 / 5 days = \$480.00

\$480 / 3 productive hours each day = \$160.00 ( / = divide)

### Incorporating profit

\$160.00 + \$90 profit = \$250.00 hourly rate

\$250.00 X 3 productive hours a day = \$750.00

\$750.00 X 5 days = \$3750.00

\$3750.00 X 50 weeks = \$187,500.00

\$187,500 - \$120,000 = \$67,500.00 profit

#### Revenue – Expense = Profit

When the small firm does not intend to profit, it is simply surfing cash flow.

Here is how to know when you are profiting:

Total Fixed Cost / (Matter Price – Cost) = Matters needed to break even

\$5000 Fixed Cost (month) / (\$1000 - \$750) = 20 matters a month to break even

#### Revenue – Expense = Profit

Compare to a firm with more margin in the formula

\$5000 Fixed Cost (month) / (\$2500 - \$750) = 3 matters a month to break even

## The best business model for getting paid



#### The Zips model works for the small firm

No inventory

Nothing perishable

Get paid up front

#### Charging for the initial consultation



#### **Garner Law PLLC**



#### 60 Minute In-Office Consultation Session

Need advice on a legal issue? This session is designed to help you navigate your legal issue and includes review of your documents.



1 hour



#### 60 Minute Online Consultation Session

Need advice on a legal issue? This session is designed to help you navigate your legal issue and includes review of documents. Documents must be sent electronically at least 1 hour prior to the session.



\$200 USD

1 hour

#### The fee agreement

A plan for solving your client's problem

A plan for getting paid

Rule 1.5(b) requires a writing covering the scope, fee & expenses

A contingent fee "agreement" is required as is a written statement of the outcome - Rule 1.5(c)

#### The best practice

Create a client-friendly contract that complies with Rule 1.5 and Rule 1.15 (when necessary)

Address other important issues like how you will communicate, what is expected of the client & what happens to the file

The e-Manual covers other terms

Request sample forms at <a href="mailto:PMAS@dcbar.org">PMAS@dcbar.org</a>

#### Limited Scope Opportunity

D.C. Superior Court has issued <u>Admin Order 14-10</u> allowing limited appearances in these divisions:

Civil

**Probate** 

Tax

Family

**Domestic Violence** 

RPC 1.2 has been amended.

See more in the e-Manual for forms.

### Bar Complaint Form

It asks this question regardless of the nature of the complaint:

D. Do you have a written retainer agreement with the attorney? If yes, please attach a copy.

There is no exception in Rule 1.5 for a client who is pro bono, court appointed, friend or family

#### Small firm bank accounts

The firm's business account (operating account)

DC IOLTA, assuming there are IOLTA eligible funds

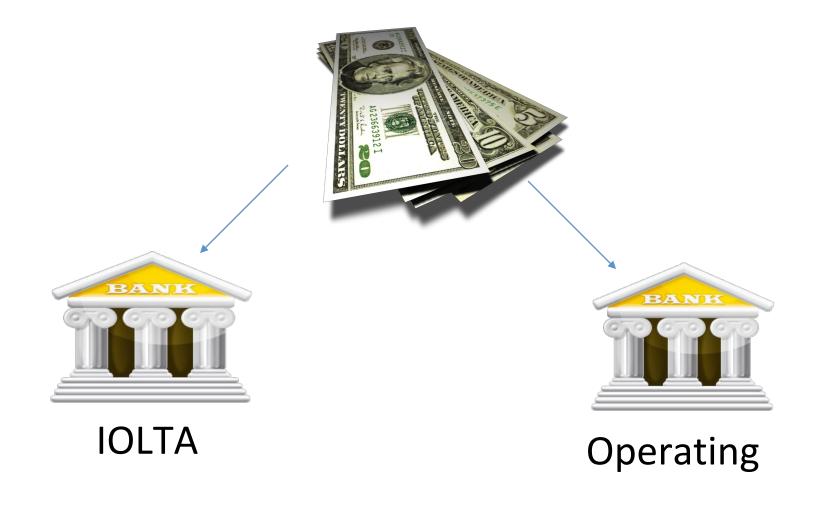
Trust Account for a single client or case, assuming the need exists

#### What goes where?

If you have done the work and earned the money, it goes into the business or operating account.

When it is an advance fee, when you are paid before you have done the work, when you have not yet earned the money, it goes into the IOLTA, assuming it is nominal in amount or going to be held for a short time.

### Managing Money



So where does the money go?

If the Fee is an ...



Advance Fee/Expense or Settlement



It goes in your...

**IOLTA Account** 

With the advance fee in the IOLTA, then you....



Perform the work

And then...

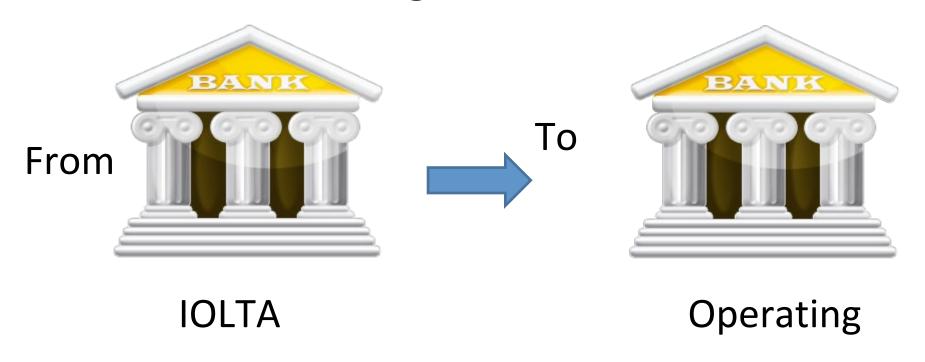


Send invoice

## Recovered funds in a contingency fee matter

- Check is deposited into the firm's IOLTA
  - Wait for the check to clear
  - When funds are available, distribute according to the fee agreement and claims of valid third parties

## Transfer the attorney fee pursuant to your fee agreement ...



These separate accounts can be at the same bank or different banks

#### What if you get paid after the work is performed?



Then you deposit straight to...



**Operating Account** 





#### Advance Fee





**Operating Account** 

#### UNLESS.....

You obtain the client's "Informed Consent" to deposit their money into your operating account - Rule 1.15(e).

Best Practice Tip: Don't Do This!



**NEVER** 



Law firm Money





**IOLTA Account** 

Except....

You can only put law firm money into an IOLTA Account pursuant to D.C. Rule 1.15(f) which says...

Nothing in this rule shall prohibit a lawyer from placing a small amount of the lawyer's funds into a trust account for the sole purpose of defraying bank charges that may be made against that account.

#### In Re Mance 980 A.2d 1196 (D.C. 2009)

- A flat fee is now an advance fee when it is paid before work begins
- Rule 1.15(e) applies it must be entrusted
  - Advance flat fees go into the IOLTA
  - The fee agreement determines how and when you earn the fee
    - A lawyer cannot earn a fee for doing nothing. In re Sather, 3 P.3d at 414

### Elements of good trust account management:

Advance fees (flat, fixed or hourly) are entrusted (DC IOLTA);

Keep a client ledger for each client's money held in trust;

Include a summary of a client's trust funds in the invoice;

Use the three-way trust account reconciliation spreadsheet.

#### e-Manual, Chapter 5, Trust Accounting

Use the <a href="DC IOLTA Registration Form">DC IOLTA Registration Form</a> to open an IOLTA at an IOLTA compliant bank

Most advance fees are IOLTA eligible because they will not earn net interest for the client

Name your IOLTA properly (Rule 1.15(b)) Example:

Daniel M. Mills Lawyer DC IOLTA, or

The Mills Firm DC IOLTA

#### IOLTA Exceptions / Rule 1.15

". . . when the lawyer is otherwise compliant with the contrary mandates of a tribunal . . ."

If you are licensed, principally practice & are IOLTA compliant in another jurisdiction. Rule 1.15(b)

". . . unless the client gives informed consent to a different arrangement." Rule 1.15(e)

### The problem with "informed consent to a different arrangement"

The Rules don't explain it

There is no case that sets out the elements

After In Re Mance, Disciplinary Counsel is waiting on the right set of facts to establish the elements. It may be coming in In Re Ponds

Waiver of entrustment is high risk conduct

#### What we think we know about informed consent to waiver of entrustment

#### Orally & in writing the client agrees that:

- 1. Advance fees are normally entrusted;
- 2. Un-entrusted fees are treated as the lawyer's property;
- 3. Lawyer must explain the service & do the work to earn the fee;
- 4. Unearned fee must be returned to the client;
- 5. Un-entrusted fees are subject to the lawyer's creditors.

#### **Credit Card Payments**

Be certain the payment goes into the right law firm account

LawPay is a new DC Bar member benefit for credit card processing

LEO 348 Accepting Credit Cards for Payment of Legal Fees

The charge back risk & credit card provisions for fee agreements: request at <a href="PMAS@dcbar.org">PMAS@dcbar.org</a>

#### Bank account record keeping

Maintain complete records for tax purposes;

Maintain complete records for trust account purposes (Rule 1.15(a);

"Complete records" tell the full story of how the lawyer handled the money and whether the lawyer followed the Rules – *In Re Clower, 831 A. 2d 1030, DCCA 2003* 

Include supporting data

#### The law firm bank statement

Should only be opened or accessible by you; Should be examined regularly;

Never delegate this task regardless of how big, busy & successful you become;

Only delegate financial duties after your thorough review of the bank statement;

Reconcile the bank statement with your trust account ledger & client ledgers.

#### The new Managing Money course

Register at <a href="PMAS@DCBar.org">PMAS@DCBar.org</a> with "Managing Money" in the subject line.

The course tracks the earning mechanism in seven types of fee agreements & manages funds in the IOLTA & operating account as representations unfold.

## Simplify your legal accounting

Accounting software for law firms

- Easy to use and built exclusively for law firms
- · Track all activity at the client level
- Stay compliant with simple trust accounting

#### Managing the small firm

A system for the paper & digital data

A system for time & dates

Invoicing & handling money

Work flows & procedures in your office

e-Manual, Chapter 8, Office Management

#### Tracking your work

Whether you charge for time or results, you need to know what you are doing & where you are spending your time

Useful tools: <u>time59.com</u> <u>Timeslips</u> <u>Clio</u> <u>Timesolv</u>

Clio is a DC Bar member benefit

Ask for the 168 hour time management spreadsheet at <a href="MAS@dcbar.org">PMAS@dcbar.org</a>

#### Invoicing

It starts in your initial consultation

It should be described in the fee agreement

It should be tied to value

It should involve a highly functional system in your law office

Invoices that show progress get paid

e-Manual, Chapter 6, Billing Practices

#### Project management

Keeping track of every prospective client, engaged client, administrative & marketing initiative in your law firm

Start with the Case & Action Manager spreadsheet; request from <a href="MAS@dcbar.org">PMAS@dcbar.org</a>

Migrate to Clio

#### Backup systems for the small firm

Backup your data either to a safe, encrypted external hard drive, and/or

Backblaze Carbonite or similar service.

To be really safe, clone your hard drive.

Glyph are best.

Get a backup for yourself; avoid DC App. R. XI, Section 15(a); comply with R. 1.3, Comment 5

Use **Being Prepared** – see the eManual

Ask for the Agreement for Emergency Backup Services

from PMAS@DCBar.org

#### When you need help

The Of Counsel arrangement; requires a close & ongoing relationship between the lawyer & firm;

Rule 1.10: the conflicts of the *of counsel* lawyer and of the firm are imputed to each other;

Washington Lawyer, Speaking of Ethics, Of Counsel Page 14

#### Managing client data

Whether you are paper oriented, paperless or a combination, the process starts with:

Rule 1.6 Confidentiality of Information

Know where the data is & that it is secure.

Should it be password protected & encrypted?

Who has access to the data?

#### Managing the risk

While the DC Rules do not require malpractice insurance, it is best to be covered

An entity will not protect you

Rule 1.8(g) bars a prospective limitation on a lawyer's liability for malpractice

e-Manual, Malpractice & Insurance

USI Affinity, DC Bar Member Benefit

#### The disciplinary system in DC

This is a consumer oriented disciplinary culture

Small firms are 10% of the DC Bar & generate nearly 50% of the docketed bar complaints

OBC statistics tell us to manage & communicate to avoid bar complaints

#### Evaluating your enterprise

Record what you learn as a part of your business plan

Get client feedback on their experience with your firm

Get a free, confidential assessment of your firm's operation from the

Practice Management Advisory Service

#### Here's what to ask

What should we keep doing?

What should we stop doing?

What did we not do that we should do?

#### Resources from the DC Bar

Free and confidential ethics guidance

Help with business issues from the Practice

Management Advisory Service

Help with stress, addiction & personal issues from the Lawyer Assistance Program

Fee dispute resolution with the Attorney Client

Arbitration Board

#### Small Law Misconceptions

- It takes a lot of money
- It's easy and for everyone
- It's for those who can't get a job
- Everyone I know will send me business
- · Working two or more practice areas is best
  - It's something to do until I find a job
    - · You can't turn anyone away

Posted by this D.C.lawyer 12/2/20 on Linkedin



#### Shahed Kader • 2nd Attorney for Software Businesses, Former SaaS Sales Leader.

It's officially been 18 months since I went full time running my law practice. Here are 6 things I have learned:

- Being in a niche is good. Doing a group of specific things for a specific type of client REALLY well can be better than doing a bunch of things kind of well. I focus on transactional law for software companies.
- Not all types of marketing/advertising works for everyone. For example, my clients aren't looking for my services on Facebook and Instagram. They're Googling, asking colleagues, or looking on LinkedIn.
- Educating people is key through content, webinars, or podcasts. Share knowledge to build trust.
- 4. Stand firm in your worth prospective clients will come and try to negotiate down rates and claim they're getting a better deal elsewhere - but you are better served holding your ground. Those looking for deals aren't going to be great clients.
- My best, most consistent clients have come to me organically through word of mouth, or just finding my content in Google or LinkedIN.
- Mental health is really important. I knew this before, but the stresses of being an
  entrepreneur are amplified in a pandemic. Meditate, seek therapy, and do what you
  can to maintain your inner peace.

The lessons keep on coming, and I keep on learning. Onward!

Posted by this D.C.lawyer 4/6/21 on Linkedin



#### Sara Kropf • 1st

Defending executives and businesses in federal criminal investigations and business...

1d • 🔇

I'm going to let you in on a little secret. <whispers> It isn't very hard to start your own law firm. Here's all you need:

- 1. A computer
- 2. A domain name for email and website
- 3. A website (use a template to start)
- 4. Malpractice insurance
- 5. A corporate entity
- 6. An operating and IOLTA account
- 7. Basic software (Office365/G Suite; Adobe)
- 8. A telephone number

That's it.

I'm exaggerating a bit, of course, but the logistics of starting a law firm are easier than ever. Post-pandemic, you definitely do not need an office.

Of course, there is one very important thing you'll also need: confidence. A lot of it. You need to be confident that you can bring in clients. Maybe you have already had success as your prior firm. (I didn't.) Or maybe you are just sure that someone somewhere will hire you. (I was.)

If you need a pep talk to take the plunge, get in touch.

#### Client Relations

## Basic Training & Beyond

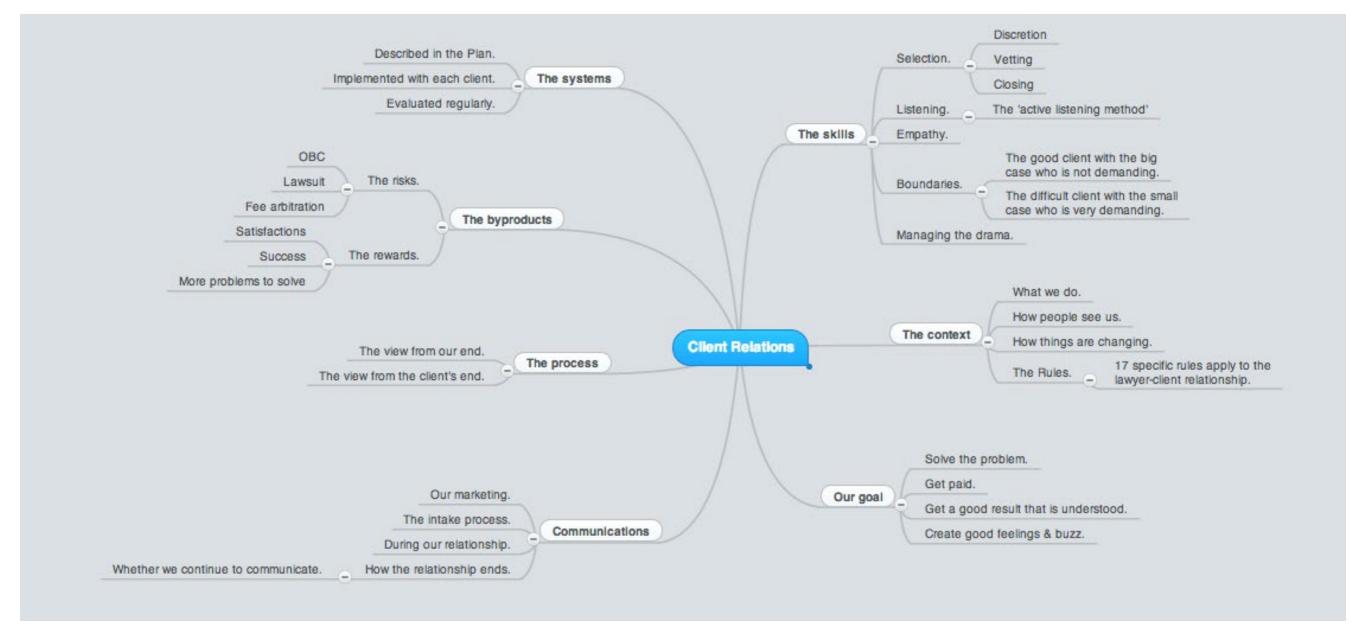
June 5, 2021

#### Who is your ideal client

Why good client choice is vital

What are the characteristics of your ideal client?

Where are they & how do you talk to them?



#### The context

# "Lawyer" "Legal profession" trigger negative responses

## Until we are needed to solve a problem

## Within the profession there is turmoil

### DC/CA Bar recent study

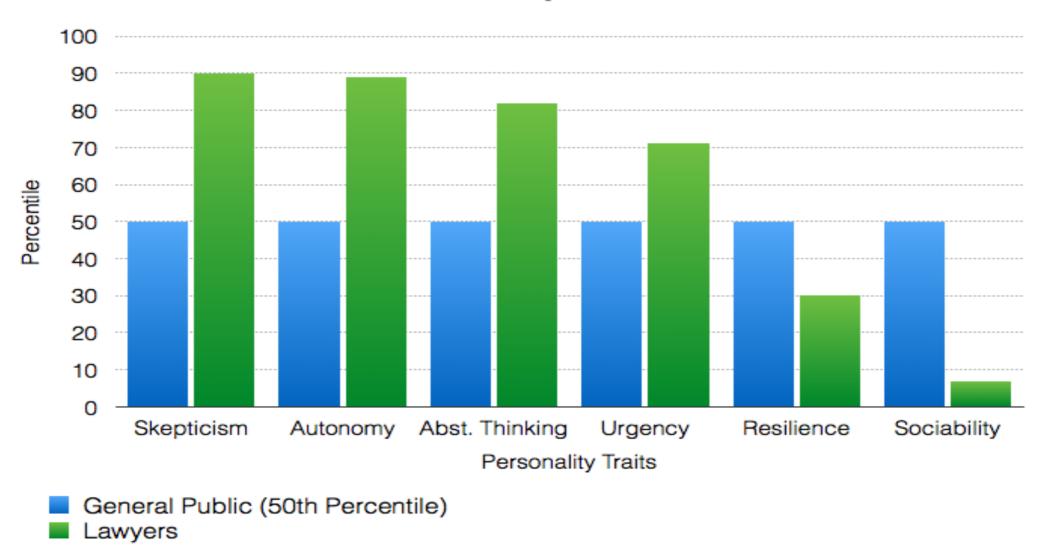
- Roughly half of practicing attorneys are experiencing symptoms of depression and anxiety, with approximately 30% of those falling in the mild range and nearly 20% falling in the moderatesevere range.
- Over half of the attorneys screened positive for risky drinking, and 30% screened for high-risk hazardous drinking (which is interpreted as alcohol abuse or possible dependence).
- Women are experiencing meaningfully worse mental health than men and are drinking more hazardously.
- Considering the higher rates of mental health distress experienced by female attorneys, an
  expected but nonetheless troubling result is that 1 in 4 women is contemplating leaving the legal
  profession due to mental health problems, burnout, or stress. 17% of male attorneys report the
  same thoughts.

Lawyers struggle with substance abuse at nearly twice the rate of the general population.

Lawyers lead the nation with the highest incidence of depression among 100 occupations.

And we solve other peoples' problems . . .

#### The 6 Predominant Lawyer Personality Traits



From the research of Larry Richard, Ph.D.

Often, the problem we solve is a piece of a bigger problem for the client

We work within a challenging context & profession

## The goal

Solve our client's problem

Get paid

Get a knowably good result

Create good will

Stay healthy

### The skills

Problem solving

Selection

Listening

Empathy

Boundaries

Management

To have good client relation, select only your ideal client

# Vet the prospective client

Vet: to make a careful, critical examination; to assess, evaluate, screen

# Research data bases & social media <u>Use Experian's</u> service for lawyers

# Charge an advance fee

Charge for the initial consultation

# Charging for the initial consultation



### **Garner Law PLLC**





#### 60 Minute In-Office Consultation Session

Need advice on a legal issue? This session is designed to help you navigate your legal issue and includes review of your documents.







#### 60 Minute Online Consultation Session

Need advice on a legal issue? This session is designed to help you navigate your legal issue and includes review of documents. Documents must be sent electronically at least 1 hour prior to the session.



1 hour

### Garner Law

# Start work in the client's presence

# The client should "see" you solving their problem

# Create a system for informing & educating the client throughout the matter

## Staff

How to determine the need

Determining the cost

Formula for determining true cost

Keep payroll well below 50% of revenue

## Hiring resources

Mechanics of hiring

eGuide to hiring

Payroll options

### How to hire & manage employees

**SBA Guide** 

LawHelp/DC employment issues

## Where to find virtual staff?

- · upwork.com (My personal favorite)
- <u>freelancer.com</u> (general VAs all categories)
- <u>fiverr.com</u> (everything from powerpoint to logos to research and article writing for \$5)
- atlasvirtualparalegal.com
- 99designs.com (logo and graphics)
- guru.com (great pool of admin and paralegal support)
- virtualparalegalservices.com
- thevirtualparalegal.com
- starrparalegals.com (bankruptcy specialty)
- flex-counsel.com/
- equivityva.com
- Off-line options:
  - local colleges
  - former places of employment/courthouse clerks
  - social media

## Perfect intake

Create a system

What is your intent?

Focus on prospective client experience

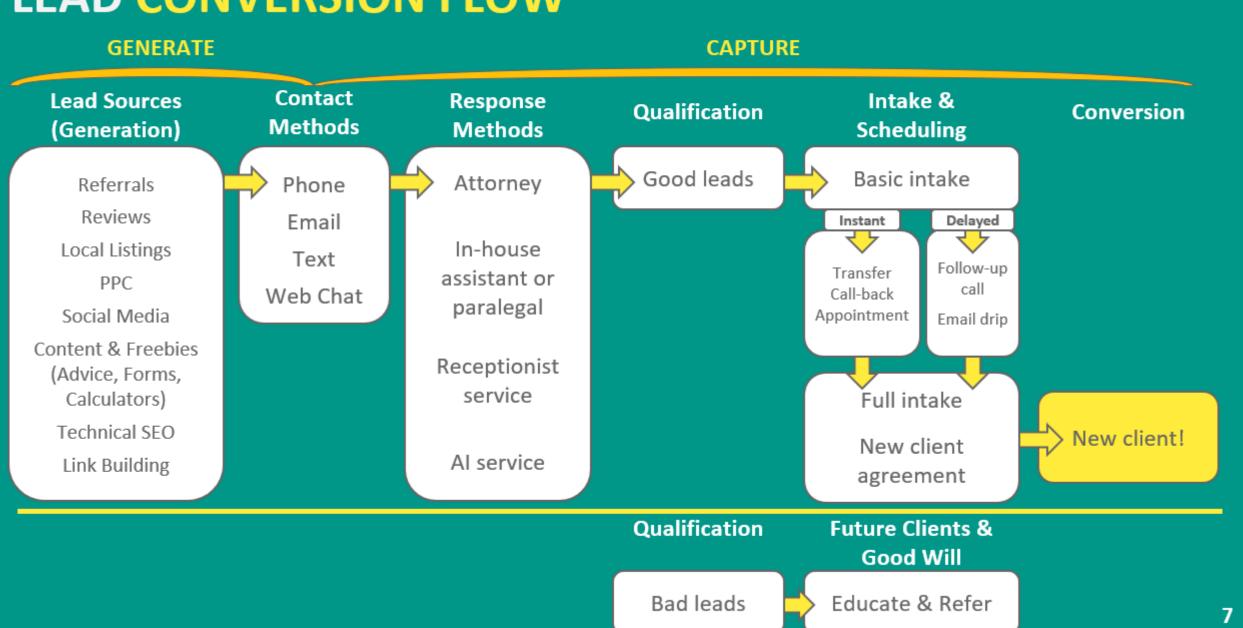
Never leave the prospective client hanging or confused

Time is of the essence

The goal is a vetted client

### **LEAD CONVERSION FLOW GENERATE**





A business truth:

bad phones kill good
 marketing



# Marketing

Applicable Rules:

7.1

7.5

Codes, regulations & other jurisdictions can also apply.

# Example: Bergman v District of Columbia

DC Court of Appeals 08-CV-859

# Marketing is anything we do that changes the culture for the better.

- Seth Godin



The first step....

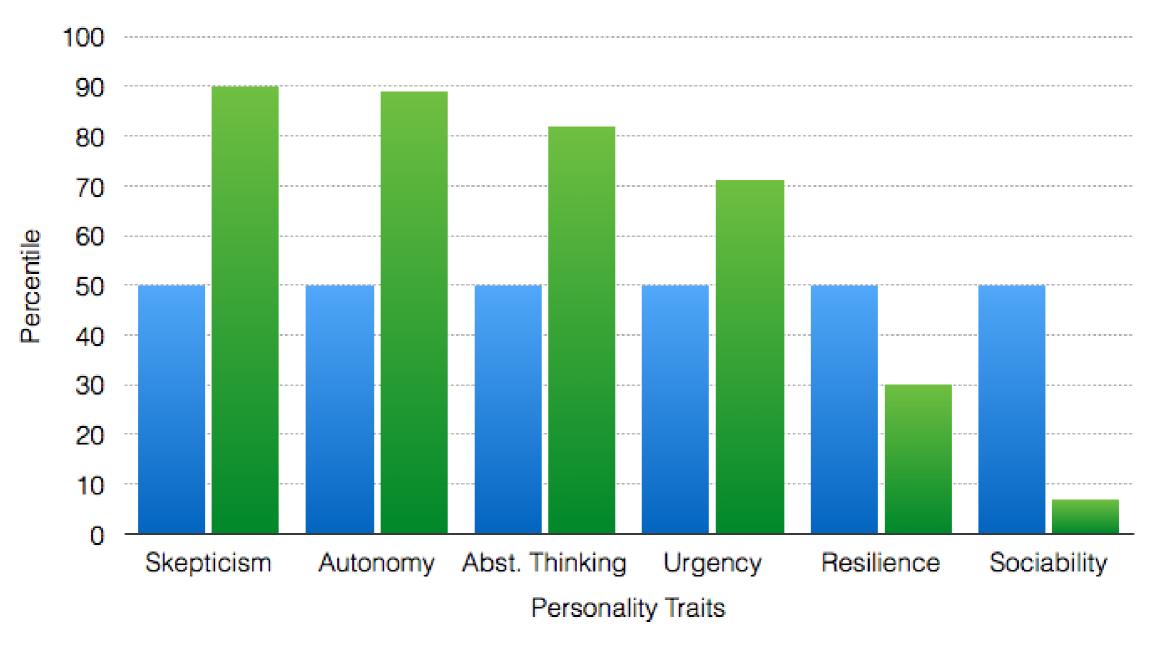
Start from what is real & true.

I act
on the basis
of my
self-image.

Own who you are.

Own where you are.

### The 6 Predominant Lawyer Personality Traits



General Public (50th Percentile)

Lawyers

From the research of Larry Richard, Ph.D.

Our choice . . .

-to talk about us

or

-to talk about the problem we solve

A marketing truth . . .

You cannot impact a feeling with a fact.

You can only impact a feeling with another feeling.

#### Nobody Wants What You're Selling

People don't want legal services. They don't want intellectual property advice, disability assistance, contract drafting, employment law, an estate plan, a divorce, or whatever legal service it is that you provide.

People want the *feelings* the legal services give them.

They want relief, freedom, or success. Clients want to feel powerful, in control, happy, satisfied, contented. They want to walk with their head held high, their chest puffed out, and confidence in their step. Each of us wants our own particular feeling, but it's still mostly a *feeling* that we really want.

Why, then, do we lawyers stuff our websites, our sales pitches, and our conversations with words about the legal services we provide, instead of the feelings the clients want to buy?

For the full article, click here

Lee Rosen

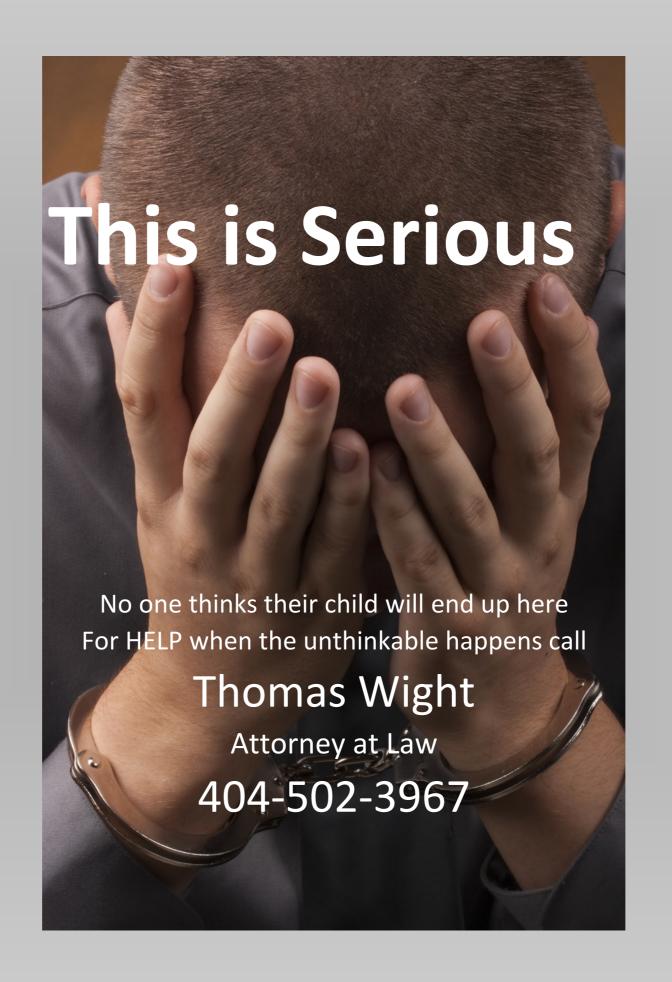
# Which message is more effective?

#### Juvenile Defense

Experienced former prosecutor who now focuses on the problems of juvenile defendants.

Thomas Wight, Esq. Lawyer 136 Pryor Street SW Atlanta, GA 30303

www.juveniledefense.com



Imagine your client's earliest thoughts about the problem . . .

If you had the chance to provide information at that moment . . .

What would you say?

How can you inform and educate your ideal client at each stage of their problem recognition process?

The information you would provide is . .

content for marketing messages.

Inform...

Be careful not to give legal advice when marketing.

The Miranda example . . .

You have the right to remain silent.

VS.

Never talk to the police.

### The ideal client's Problem Recognition Process

- What?
- l've got a problem . . .
- Maybe it will go away . . .
- Can I solve it myself . . .
- Do I need a lawyer . . .
- Who is the right lawyer for me?

# Yellow page ads are aimed at the last stage of the problem recognition process:

Who is the right lawyer for me?

Legal Zoom is aimed at the early stages.

## Questions you can ask to learn about your client's

#### Problem Recognition Process

Why did you come to me?

Tell me about your problem?

What will the solution feel like?

What worries you now?

What have you worried about in the past?

Who else have you told about this problem?

## Questions you can ask to learn about your client's

#### Problem Recognition Process

Is this the first time you have talked to a lawyer?

What concerns you about talking to a lawyer?

What is the best way for us to communicate?

When did you first realize you had this problem? What did you do?

# Questions you can ask to learn about your client's Problem Recognition Process

Tell me what you know about this problem you want me to solve.

Since we have not worked together before, would you like to know how I charge to solve your problem?

#### THINGS LAWYERS PUT IN THEIR WEBSITE BIOS

#### THINGS CLIENTS WISH WERE IN LAWYER BIOS

WHERE I WENT TO LAW SCHOOL IN 1973

THE NOW-RETIRED
JUDGE I CLERKED FOR

EVERY TYPE OF MATTER
I'VE EVER WORKED ON

I'M ADMITTED TO

WHAT OTHER LAWYERS THINK (SUPER LAWYERS, AV RATING, ETC.) OF ME

BORING CLE SPEECHES
I'VE GIVEN

**EMAIL** 

ADDRESS

PHONE

NUMBER

WILL YOU RETURN
MY CALLS?

TWITTER, ETC.

DO YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE DOING EXACTLY WHAT I NEED?

ARE YOU A TOTAL ASSHOLE?

WHAT DO YOUR CLIENTS SAY ABOUT YOU?

WHAT KIND OF WORK ARE YOU REALLY GOOD AT?

COPYRIGHT 2013 MATTHEW HOMANN

@MATTHOMANN | NONBILLABLEHOUR.COM

### What every prospective client needs to know & feel:

Why do I need a lawyer?

Do you know what you are doing?

What do others think about you?

Are you right for me?

Can I work with you?

Will you care?

Take what you learn and engage

# What do process focused websites do?

# Some examples of process focused sites:

```
www.virginiadivorceattorney.com
www.rosen.com
www.jerseyestateplanning.com
www.bobbattlelaw.com
www.oginski-law.com
www.paestateplanners.com
```

# Marketing focused on "me"



Tax, Business Law, Business
Formation and Finance,
Computer/High Tech/Biotech Law,
Intellectual Property, Trusts, Estates,
Wills, Probate, Estate Planning, Real
Estate, Civil Litigation, Mediation.

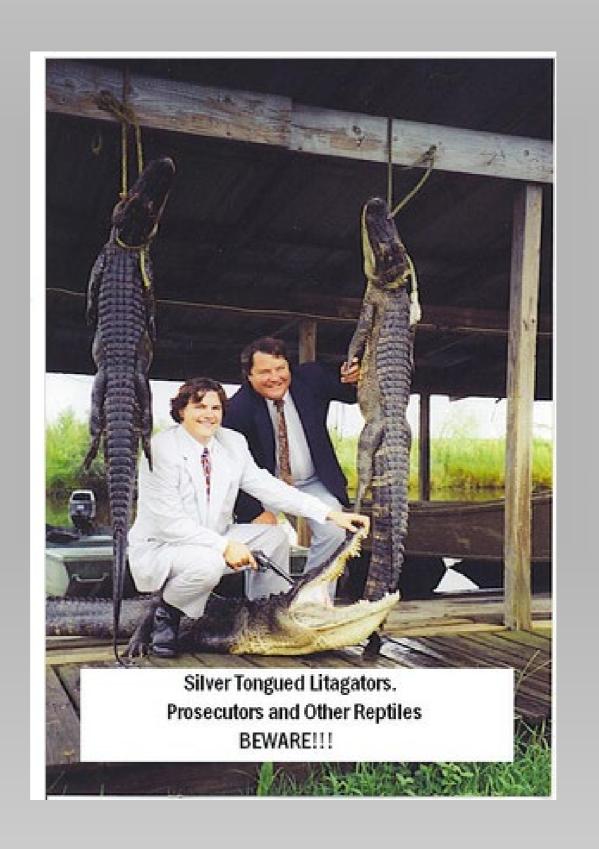
Attorney and accountant, Notary Public. Former IRS attorney and former tax/business transactions attorney for a major corporation (Freddie Mac®). Education: University of Maryland (B.A., 1977); St. John's University School of Law (J.D., 1980); Georgetown University (M.S. Accounting, 1981); New York University School of Law (LL.M., 1987). Practice serves individuals, business, trusts, estates, partnerships, nonprofit organizations, etc. in regional, national, and international legal matters. Licensed to practice law in Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, and New York. Admitted to U.S. District Court-District of Maryland, U.S. District Court-Northern District of New York, U.S. Tax Court, U.S. Court of Appeals-Fourth Circuit, and U.S. Supreme

Computer law, high tech law, biotech law, software/product development agreements, consulting services agreements, software/product licensing agreements, software/product maintenance agreements, domestic and international software/product distribution agreements, e-commerce and web development agreements, joint ventures, teaming agreements, subcontracts, confidentiality agreements, litigation, etc.

Intellectual property (trademarks, service marks, and copyrights), applications, protection issues, infringement issues, domain name and web content protection, online brand protection issues and resolution strategies, domain name recovery and acquisition processes, unfair competition, trade secrets, trade dress claims, litigation, etc. Identifying and inventorying intellectual property assets, buying and selling intellectual property assets, etc.

Trusts, estates, wills, probate, estate planning and administration, general and special powers of attorney, health care power of attorney and advance medical directives/living wills, revocable living trusts, incurance trusts, charitable trusts, especial people.

And perhaps the finest example of "it's all about me" lawyer marketing . . .

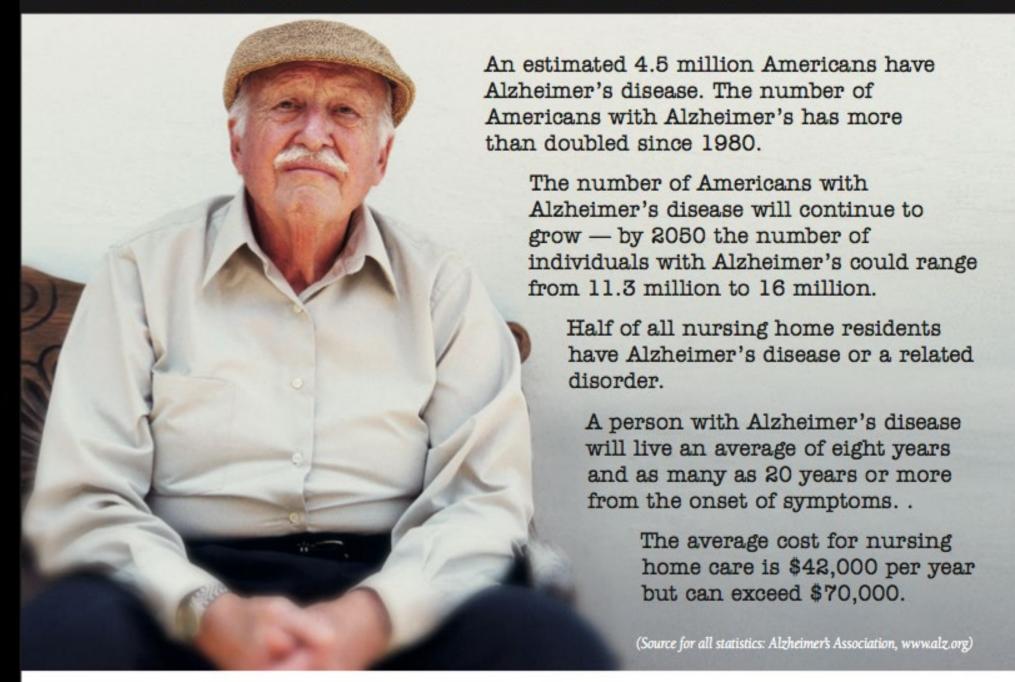


You are an estate planner or elder lawyer . . .

and you know your ideal client has a process . . .

How do you talk to them while they are working their way through their process?

#### "Dad Couldn't Remember How To Get Home."



The answers to the legal and financial challenges posed by Alzheimer's disease can only be answered on an individual basis by an attorney whose practice is concentrated on elder law, Medicaid planning, and estate planning.

The Elder Law Firm of Marshall & Associates is known throughout Pennsylvania for the expert help they provide seniors who are faced with long-term care needs.

#### Take The First Step

Call today to reserve a place at one of our free seminars for seniors, their families, elder care professionals, and caregivers. Each presentation lasts about 90 minutes, including a "Question & Answer" session.

### Elder Law Firm of Marshall Associates

Jersey Shore Office

303 Allegheny Street, Jersey Shore, PA 17740-1405 (570) 398-7603 (800) 401-4552

Williamsport Office

49 E. Fourth Street, Suite 200, Williamsport, PA 17701-6355 (570) 321-9008

Wilkes-Barre Office

Cross Creek Pointe, Suite 402, 1065 Hwy. 315, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702 (570) 822-6919

#### Reason To Make An Estate Plan #10

Your son-in-law, Fred

- Hasn't had a job since 1999
- Belongs to a religion that you consider a cult
- Sells t-shirts at concerts by a band called "Phish"
- You suspect he is fond of chemical substances
- Thinks it's great that he has rich in-laws

Is he going to get half of what you leave to your daughter?



Wednesday, February 15, 2006 10:00am-11:30am

> The Lodge at Rancho Mirage 68-900 Frank Sinatra Drive Rancho Mirage

Thursday, February 16, 2006 6:30pm-8:00pm

The Lodge at Rancho Mirage 68-900 Frank Sinatra Drive Rancho Mirage

#### **Refreshments Served**

Reserve your space today. Call: 760-776-9977





74-916 HIGHWAY III INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210 PHONE 760-776-9977 FAX 760-406-5053 WWW.LEELAWYERS.COM Reason #11 Why Every Parent Needs An Estate Plan

#### Your daughter, Isabella

- · Waved to you from the stage throughout her first appearance in the Nutcracker this past year.
- · Wants to be a veterinarian when she grows up (either that or Cinderella).
- · Loves to hike (in her tutu).
- Still falls asleep in your lap.

How important is *her* future?



#### FREE Estate Planning Educational Event

Wednesday, October 12, 2011 Saturday, October 15, 2011 6:00pm



3:00pm

Mill Valley Community Center • Forest Room • 180 Camino Alto • Mill Valley

Seating is limited. Register today at www.TheaLaw.com or call: 415-451-0123

\*We strongly recommend both parents attend. FREE CHILDCARE FOR EVENT!



Thea Beatie Eliot



TRUSTS | ESTATES | FAMILIES Protect what you love.

700 Larkspur Landing Cir. . Suite 249 Larkspur, CA 94939

Tel (415) 451-0123 • Fax (415) 451-7644

www.TheaLaw.com

### Reason #5 To Name Guardians For Your Kids

Your mother-in-law, Barbara

- Offers you lots of free parenting advice
- Thinks the answer to all baby problems is "more solid foods"
- Most important values are family and carpeting
- Believes in "spare the rod, spoil the child"
- Would do a much better job than you if given the chance.

Are you sure the court won't assign guardianship of your children to *her*?

Call Today For Your Free Parent's Protection Planning Guide: (415)451-0123 or visit www.TheaLaw.com

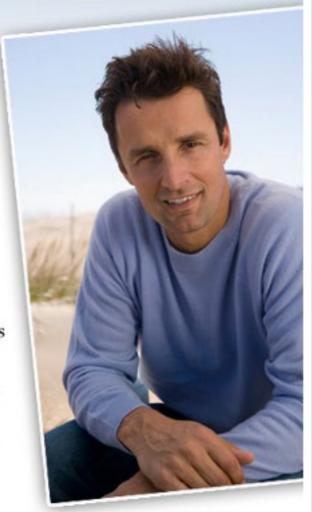


700 Larkspur Landing Cir. Suite 199 Larkspur, CA 94939 Tel: (415) 451-0123 Fax (415) 451-7644 www.TheaLaw.com

#### Reason **#6** To Get A Divorce

#### Your husband, Alex

- Helps with the dishes, then acts like he should get a medal
- Sheds so much hair, your bathroom floor looks like it has a rug on it
- For Christmas, gave you a dual-bag vacuum cleaner
- Main occupation in life is watching endless hours of sports on TV
- Refers to your favorite sushi restaurant as "the bait shop"
- While out to dinner with you and another couple, likes to hit on the waitresses
- · Or your best friend



#### Are You Sure You Want To Stay Married?

#### Call Today For A Complimentary and Confidential Divorce Consultation: 626.683.8869

RUSSAKOW RYAN JOHNSON RRJ

Pasadena Office

225 South Lake Avenue, 10th Floor

Pasadena, CA 91101

626.683.8869 tel

626.683.8870 fax

Ontario Office

3633 Inland Empire Blvd., Ste. 777

Ontario, CA 91764

909.466.1661 tel

909.466.1662 fax

Orange County Office

2603 Main Street, Ste. 1050

Irvine, CA 92614

949.833.8838 tel

949.833.8808 fax

### SmartMarketing

Lots of free information here

### Elements of a good, long term marketing system

Prepare information about the five to ten questions you get from every new client.

Prepare a 15 to 30 minute talk to a room full of your potential ideal clients informing & educating them about the problems you solve.

Give this talk to groups & organizations.

Break the talk into one to three minute videos.

### Create a database of contacts in Outlook, in a spreadsheet, or in any other functional system.

# Who goes into your contacts list?

Friends, family, clients, former clients, potential clients, professionals & anyone who can refer someone with a problem.

Sophisticated contact management software review:

http://contact-management-softwarereview.toptenreviews.com/

www.salesforce.com

# A basic contact management system.

	_			_			, ,	_\	
Contact ID	Contact Name	Contact Name2	_	Billing Address	City	N.	State or Provi		
	1 Contact 1	Contact 1	Title 1	Address 1	City		New York	12345	Unite
	2 Contact 2	Contact 2	Title 2	Address 2		York	New York	12345	Click the arrow
	3 Contact 3	Contact 3		ed fewer rows than provided		tle	Washington	12345	heading cell in t
	4 Contact 3	Contact 4	mere and and	ata, just select the rows you		tle	Washington	12345	for sort and filt
	5 Contact 4	Contact 5	click Dele	then, on the Tables tab of te and then click Table Row		York	New York	12345	Unite
	6 Contact 5	Contact 6	LITIO	nt to Delete and then click T		York	New York	12345	Unite
	7 Contact 6	Contact 7	Title 7			tle	Washington	12345	Unite
	8 Contact 7	Contact 8	Title 8	Address 8	Seat	tle	Washington	12345	Unite
	9 Contact 8	Contact 9	Title 9	Address 9	New	York	New York	12345	Unite
	10 Contact 8	Contact 10	Title 10	Address 10	New	York	New York	12345	Unite
	11 Contact 8	Contact 11	Title 11	Address 11	New	York	New York	12345	Unite
	12 Contact 9	Contact 12	Title 12	Address 12	Seat	tle	Washington	12345	Unite
	13 Contact 10	Contact 13	Title 13	Address 13	Seat	tle	Washington	12345	Unite
	14 Contact 11	Contact 14	Title 14	Address 14	New	York	New York	12345	Unite
	15 Contact 12	Contact 15	Title 15	Address 15	Lond	don		12345	Unite
	16 Contact 13	Contact 16	Title 16	Address 16	Long	don		12345	Unite
	17 Contact 14	Contact 17	Title 17	Address 17	Lond	don		12345	Unite
	18 Contact 14	Contact 18	Title 18	Address 18	Long	don		12345	Unite
	19 Contact 14	Contact 19	Title 19	Address 19	Long	don		12345	Unite
	20 Contact 15	Contact 20	Title 20	Address 20	Long	don		12345	Unite
	21 Contact 16	Contact 21	Title 21	Address 21	Toky	0		12345	Japai
	22 Contact 17	Contact 22	Title 22	Address 22	Toky	/O		12345	Japai
	23 Contact 18	Contact 23	Title 23	Address 23	Toky	/O		12345	Japai
	24 Contact 18	Contact 24	Title 24	Address 24	Toky			12345	Japai
	25 Contact 19	Contact 25	Title 25	Address 25	Toky			12345	Japai
	26 Contact 20	Contact 26	Title 26	Address 26	Toky			12345	Japai
	27 Contact 21	Contact 27	Title 27	Address 27	Toky			12345	Japai
	28 Contact 22	Contact 28	Title 28	Address 28	Toky			12345	Japai
	29 Contact 23	Contact 29	Title 29	Address 29	Paris			12345	Franc
	30 Contact 24	Contact 30	Title 30	Address 30	Paris			12345	Franc
	31 Contact 24	Contact 31	Title 31	Address 31	Paris			12345	Franc
	32 Contact 24	Contact 32	Title 32	Address 32	Paris		T	12345	Fran
	33 Contact 25	Contact 33	Title 33	Address 33	Paris			12345	Franc
	34 Contact 26	Contact 34	Title 34	Address 34	Paris			12345	Fran
	35 Contact 26	Contact 35	Title 35	Address 35	Paris			12345	Franc
	36 Contact 27	Contact 36	Title 36	Address 36	Paris			12345	Fran
	23 Contact E7	20.11201.00			1 0113	-		225 15	

Contacts are referral sources & potential clients so long as you engage with them.

How many opportunities exist for you to be found?

How many venues can you create for your marketing message?

You & your presence Your office Business card Website (video) Newsletter Blog Brochure Social media Community engagement

# How is your signature block?



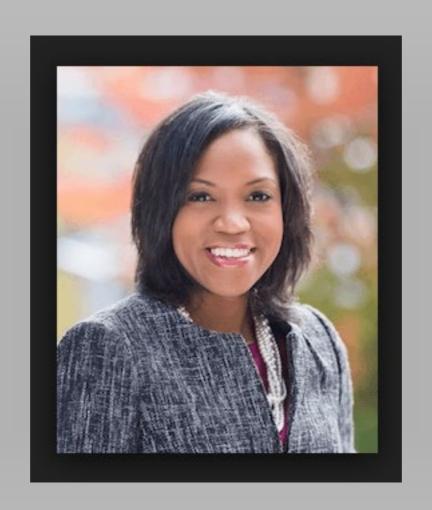
Here is a great program on marketing from Sharon & John

Speaking engagements,

books & free publications

are useful tools

## A professional photo is essential



Michelle C. Thomas & Associates, PC

**Photo by Eli Turner** 

# From Michelle's website today

### Michelle C. Thomas

Founder

#### Download VCard

Tel: 202.536.4841

1250 Connecticut Avenue NW Suite 700

Washington, D.C. 20036

### PRACTICE AREAS

» Divorce & Family Law - 100%











# Create a great logo



http://99designs.com/logo-design

# Sources for unique & traditional cards:

Moo.com

DesignYourOwnCard.com

Crane.com

VistaPrint.com

# What Every Virginia Woman Should Know About Divorce

Before You Go - 7 Steps
Before Moving Out of the
Marital Residence

# 6 Major Mistakes to Avoid When Selecting An Estate Planning Attorney

Focus on the problem you solve & the questions in the mind of the prospective client

# Why the newsletter works

Targeted to your audience
Regularity
Long-term tool
Becomes a part of your process
More cost effective
Few do it well
Hardcopy is better than electronic

#### [EXT][New post] By Search Warrant or Subpoena, the Government Will Get Your Gmail (and the Numbers Are on the Ris



GRAND JURY TARGET <comment-reply@wordpress.com>

i If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.

#### New post on GRAND JURY TARGET

×



By Search Warrant or Subpoena, the Government Will Get Your Gmail (and the Numbers Are on the Rise)

by Kropf Moseley



#### By: Sara Kropf

I have a Gmail account for personal use. You likely do too. And nearly every one of my clients has one. In fact, Google owns about 43% of the email market. Gmail has about 1.8 billion users and about 306 billion emails are sent and received daily in 2020.

Who cares about Gmail this much? The federal government does.

That's because people still send a lot of interesting things via email. The government wants to use those emails to build their criminal cases, particularly in white-collar cases. We think about wiretaps as electronic surveillance since they happen in real time, but gathering email is a key part of how the government investigates potential crimes.

### **GrandJuryTarget.com**

# Email post links back to blog

The concept applies in any practice area. . .

Employer Alerts by Charles H. Fleischer Relate to Marketing like it is your best client.

How would you treat your best client?

You would have a plan

You would strategize

You would open a file

You would work on it every day

You would evaluate it often

# You can do the work yourself:

Rollins & Chan

Wufoo form builder

Square Space

How to create a Facebook business page

### Or you can use a service:

Mockingbird Marketing

Foster Web Marketing

Great Legal Marketing

SmartMarketingNow.com

UpwardAction.com

# Marketing resources

The Culture Code by Clotaire Rapaille

Influence, the Psychology of Persuasion by Robert B. Cialdini

Contagious, Why Things Catch On by Jonah Berger

You Can't Teach Hungry by John Morgan

Great Legal Marketing & Renegade Lawyer Marketing by Ben Glass

Primal branding: Create Zealots for Your Brand, Your Company, and Your Future by Patrick Hanlon

# Truths

All marketing works. Some work better than others

Marketing is long term trust building.

Bad phones kill good marketing.

# More truths

You cannot impact a feeling with a fact.

You can only impact a feeling with a feeling.

What is your mindset?

I have to market.

or

I get to market.

# Basic Training & Beyond

Saturday, June 5, 2021

District of Columbia Bar

# Productivity, technology & the essentials

# When you don't know where to start, set priorities with a concept map

To clear your head, to get focused, ask yourself:

Why am I here?

What's going on around me?

What am I going to do about it?

How will my actions affect others?

Your competition may be smarter richer and better looking,

but they have the same amount of time as you.

# Every day

Focus on your most important task

Do creative work first

Do reactive work second

# Schedule time for the most important task

# Design your ideal week in blocks of time on your calendar

Keep a journal

Self-evaluate

# It does not have to be perfect

# The paperless system. . .

- One or more computers & a Fujitsu Scansnap
- RocketMatter, MyCase, Clio, NetDocuments or LegalWorkspace
- Going Paperless-A Practical Guide
- ScanSnap demo

### **FUJITSU Document Scanner ScanSnap**



ScanSnap scanners take the complication out of document imaging with onebutton ease of use. Perfect for home and small business environments, the ScanSnap family of scanners bring duplex multi-sheet scanning to everyone, combining performance and affordability in a compact size.

### ScanSnap iX500



### ScanSnap iX100



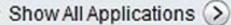
ScanSnap products

### ScanSnap





Favorites







ScanSnap Organizer



Scan to CardMinder



Scan to Folder



Scan to E-mail



Scan to Print



Scan to Mobile



Scan to Dropbox



Scan to Evernote (Doc...



Scan to Evernote (Note)



Scan to Google Docs(TM)



Scan to Salesforce C ...



Scan to SugarSync



ABBYY Scan to Word



ABBYY Scan to Excel(R)



ABBYY Scan to PowerPoint(R)



Scan to SharePoint



Scan to Picture Folder

Detail













The Best Law Practice Management Software

Features Pricing Testimonials Blog Demo







### iPad® Legal Software

Part of the tablet revolution? Rocket Matter is an ideal solution for iPad, Droid®, and Windows® tablet attorneys. Practice on the go!

IT'S AWESOME...



### iPhone App for Lawyers

Our new app is designed to be the perfect mobile partner to our web-based product. It captures our core functionality and makes the work lives of our attorneys a whole lot easier!

SEE THE APP...



### Check Out Our Awesome Video

Learn about our online legal software and how it can help your law firm with practice management and time and billing. Secure, fast, and easy!

TESTIMONIALS...

# RocketMatter integrations

Tour

Our Customers

Resources

Blog

About

Pricing + Sign Up





## A suite of web-based tools to help manage your law firm

Clio is the leading practice management, time & billing and client collaboration platform for small- to mid-sized law firms. Your important client data is securely accessible anywhere - from your PC, your Mac, and even your iPhone.

**Get Started** 

Feature Tour

### The best features. Case closed.

Clio leads the way in cloud-based practice management with a rich set of features that make managing everything from intake to invoicing a snap.



DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

Quickly and securely store/access electronic copies of relevant file correspondence.





BANK GRADE SECURITY

256-bit SSL encryption combined with enterprise-class data security and redundancy ensures the safety of sensitive client data.





TIME TRACKING

Effortless time tracking ensures simplified and accurate billing and recovery.



### A DC Bar Member Benefit



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What we do

Who is NetDocuments for?

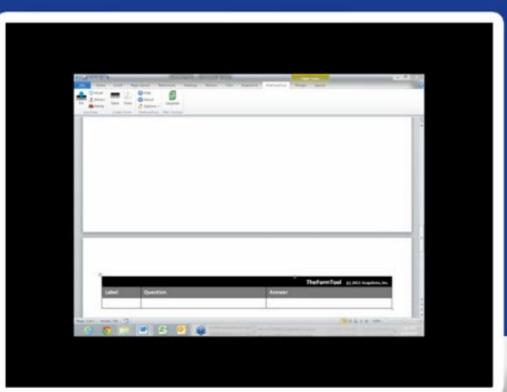
## Clio integrations

# Build a system . . .

Automate Word documents
Free version / Pro version \$89.00
The Form Tool







# Create smart forms and automate documents in MS Word, brilliantly!

TheFormTool is the <u>fastest growing</u>, most <u>user-friendly</u> and <u>powerful</u> software in the world to create forms or automate documents in Microsoft Word.

With a learning curve measured in minutes not months<sup>TM</sup>, it uses your own MS Word documents to create intelligent forms for repetitive use. Many professionals spend as much as 30% of their productive time creating repetitive documents, personalizing them for each client, matter, patient, case or account.



Drop in on

"The Learning Curve"



# Free & low cost research...

- Fastcase: Nationwide law library for free
- Local research sources: request from PMAS@dcbar.org
- Google Scholar / <a href="http://scholar.google.com">http://scholar.google.com</a>

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TRACK YOUR TIME

PAINLESS INVOICING

KNOW WHO OWES YOU EASY LEDES INVOICING EASY TRUST ACCOUNTING

MY TIME59

#### Web-Based Time & Billing Software For Lawyers

Why Time59?

Simplicity. Essential features. Outstanding value.

Free 30 Day Trial

Take The Tour



#### How much does Time59 cost?

Time59 is priced at \$99.95 / YEAR for unlimited data. Your first 30 days are FREE. Time59 also has an optional mobile web app called My Time59. Each Time59 subscription includes one FREE My Time59 user. Additional users are priced at \$9.95 per user, per month.

#### How do I get started?

To get started go to the sign up form where you will create your user name and password. When you sign in to your account for the first time you will be instructed on how to proceed. Time59 has plenty of online help to guide you. There's also free, friendly support via phone or e-mail.

#### Here's what Time59 users are saying...

"I absolutely love Time59! It's the best application." (web-based or otherwise) that I've ever used and I really mean that. It has pretty much everything I need and nothing I don't need. I hate overloaded software with a million features I will never use getting in the way."

Reed W. Super, Esq.

"Time59 allows me to easily track time and expenses for all my clients. The system is easy to use and has great features. I highly recommend it for solo lawyers."

Pamela S. Wynn MSW, JD Boynton Beach, FL

"As a previous user of Timeslips for many years, I can easily toss it out the window for Time59, which is user-friendly, accurate, and easy to access from the internet. I don't have to install software on multiple computers, updates are automatic, and invoices are easy to create and send. Hove working with Time59!"

Time59 User From Arizona





**OUR SERVICES** 

**ABOUT RUBY** 

PRICING

BLOG





#### Meet Ruby,

your real, live virtual receptionist.

Ruby is the smart and cheerful team of virtual receptionists trained to make a difference in your day. From our offices in Portland, Oregon, we handle your calls with care. We deliver the perfect mix of friendliness, charm, can-do attitude, and professionalism. Best of all, your callers will think we work in your office. Meet us!



#### **IMPRESS**

Our friendly, professional virtual receptionists will WOW your callers.

#### BE MOBILE

We'll transfer your calls to you, when and where you like.

#### RELAX

Your calls are always answered by a cheerful, live person.

#### SAVE

You'll gain top-notch service at a fraction of the price of an on-site receptionist.

#### GROW

Inspire loyal customers with exceptional customer service.



#### LABELING NEEDS

MAILING & SHIPPING

Files & Binders Specialty Assets & Barcoding Facilities & MRO Wires & Cables Networking Components Home Organization

DYMO® labels are the brand that small businesses dream about. Our LabelWriter® printers and scales help make mailing and shipping processes easier - like a well-oiled machine.



LabelWriter® 450 Turbo \$12999



LabelWriter® 450 \$9999



LabelWriter® 450 Twin Turbo \$19999



LabelWriter® 450 Duo \$20999



LabelWriter® 4XL \$27999



**Desktop Mailing Solution** \$24999



LW Address Labels 1 1/8" x 3 1/2"

\$849



LW Shipping Labels 2 5/16" x 4"

\$2249



DYMO Stamps® Internet Postage Labels 1 5/8" x 1 1/4"

\$2095



# Video conferencing with Zoom

Microsoft 365 for law firms

# Lexicata for client intake & management, has become Clio Grow

**Direct Law** for virtual lawyering

# More tools & support

**LawPay** 

Credit card processing | Getting paid on the go

**Bench** 

Carolyn Warrick

Bookkeeping services

CustomerSure

Reviews on client service

**RingCentral** 

Ooma

Cloud phone system

# Emotional intelligence for lawyers

The Power of Emotional Intelligence

Travis Bradberry





#### 2.5 hours

The average time an attorney spends on billable work per day.

#### 2.9 hours

The average time spent each day on admin tasks.

#### 1.2 hours

Of those 2.9 hours, the top 3 tasks are office administration (16%), invoicing (15%), and configuring technology (11%).

#### 2 hours

33% of 6 hours/day not spent on billable work goes toward business development, indicating the importance of generating new clients.





### 23 minutes

How long it takes to recover from an interruption. Attorneys are interrupted ~6/day, so that's a ~2-hour loss per day.

# 2 out of 3 potential clients Folks who say their "decision to hire" is most influenced by an

Folks who say their "decision to hire" is most influenced by an attorney's responsiveness to their first call or email.

## 59 percent

People, on average, who didn't hire an attorney even after a consult.

## 86 percent

The average amount of attorneys' earnings that is ever collected.

# Maddy Martin's full program on May 14, 2020

Recorded Lunch & Learn programs

Maddy is with **Smith.ai** 

# Things have changed during Covid

How are lawyers planning to change their ways? Consider these statistics from Clio's 2020 Legal Trends Report:

- 96% say they'll store firm data in the cloud.
- 95% say they'll support electronic documents and signatures.
- 96% say they'll accept electronic payments.
- 96% say they'll use practice management software.
- 83% say they'll meet clients through videoconferencing.

# Take care of yourself...

# In a knowledge business, capital is human.

Recommended reading: The Practice by Seth Godin