



PRACTICE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY SERVICE

August 2025

From the Desks of Your D.C. Bar Practice Management Advisors



Tools for What's Next

By Kaitlin E. McGee

More lawyers are leaving government service, exploring private practice, or shifting into new roles than ever before. Our Basic Training programs have been full of attorneys who are in the middle of figuring out what's next, whether that means starting their own firm, moving into a new practice area, or simply taking a new professional path. Transitions can feel overwhelming, but the D.C. Bar offers a range of free and low-cost resources designed to make the process clearer and more manageable.

[Navigating What's Next](#) – August 28

Join me and Sharon Greenbaum, a licensed clinician with the [Lawyer Assistance Program](#) (LAP), for *Navigating What's Next: A Conversation for Government Lawyers Considering Private Practice*. We'll talk about the identity shifts that come with leaving government service, the fears and uncertainties of starting something new, and practical strategies for moving forward with confidence.

[Register here.](#)

Key Resources for Lawyers in Transition

- **[Basic Training & Beyond](#):** Our monthly program for starting, managing, and growing a law practice.
- **[Practice360°](#) – October 8:** Our full-day fall event at Bar Headquarters brings together top speakers on marketing, AI, ethics, LinkedIn, and even improv for lawyers. It's a great way to meet other solo and small firm attorneys and get actionable tools for your business. [Learn more.](#)
- **[Resource Library](#):** Templates, business plans, financial tools, and marketing guides for solo and small firms.
- **[Video Programs](#):** Access our on-demand programs, including popular LinkedIn sessions for building a professional presence.
- **[Lawyer Assistance Program \(LAP\)](#):** Free, confidential counseling and [support groups](#) for members navigating career or personal changes. Check out their [Resources for Times of Change](#).
- **[Ethics Hotline](#):** Speak directly with one of our four full-time ethics attorneys for confidential informal advice on ethical issues.
- **Article Spotlight:** My feature in the July/August *Washington Lawyer* on leaving federal service for private practice. [Read it here.](#)
- **Opportunities for Criminal Defense Attorneys:** The deadline to apply for the Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Panel in D.C. Superior Court is August

15. CJA panel work is an excellent way to gain courtroom experience and build a criminal defense practice in D.C.

- [Apply here.](#)
- [Learn more about panel work in our July 24 video program recording.](#)

Even long-time members are surprised by how much the Bar offers. Whether you're just starting your transition or ready to take the next step, these programs are designed to help you move forward with confidence.

Basic Training & Beyond

If you're starting a firm, [Basic Training & Beyond](#) is a great jumping-off point. Day One will teach you the essentials to get your firm off the ground, and Day Two will help you grow and manage your firm.

Here is how to start, grow and manage a law firm in a large, urban market.

Our monthly [Basic Training & Beyond](#) is set for **August 5 & 26, 2025**, from **9:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** We will meet in person in the Williamson Conference Room on the third floor of Bar Headquarters. The program is presented monthly for members and law firm staff.

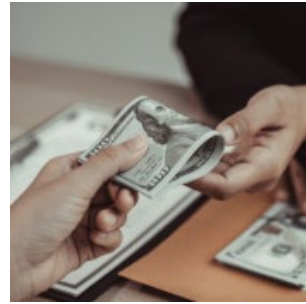
This program has been presented more than four hundred times for more than 5,000 lawyers over the last seventeen years, and many have launched and are now operating small firms. We stay connected with many small firms, and what we learn informs the content for this program.

Managing Money

Managing Money

Our next in-person session of Managing Money is set for **September 22, 2025**, from **9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

We also present Managing Money on request for a law firm or organization.



[Register for an upcoming session or schedule a session for your firm here.](#)

Lunch and Learn

PMAS is collaborating with the [Law Practice Management Community](#) to bring you the following [Lunch and Learn](#) program:

- August 28 – Navigating What’s Next: A Conversation for Government Lawyers Considering Private Practice

LPM: PMAS Productions

All programs begin at Noon on Zoom. Register for any and all [here](#).

Successful Small Firm Course

Are you interested in a business incubator approach to growing your law firm?

Consider working with us on an individual basis. We now offer the **Successful Small Firm Practice Course** in a series of one-on-one sessions on Zoom.

The Course serves as an incubator for solo attorneys and small firms and helps them work through their business and marketing plans with support, feedback, and guidance. Lawyers focus on the type of firm they want to create and work through the Course at their own pace with built-in accountability for achieving their business goals. If you are interested in this approach to creating and growing a law firm, contact PMAS@dcbar.org.

Resources

Making a transition right now?

Our Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP) has compiled these [Resources for Times of Change](#).

Our [Video Resource Library](#) offers free webinars on a variety of practice management topics. New programs are added regularly. Our full archive of recordings and materials is [here](#). If you have an idea for a program, let us know at: lunchandlearn@dcbar.org.

Missed any of these recent sessions? You can [access the recordings and materials anytime](#).

Here's a glimpse of some recent sessions:

- **What's It Like to be a Criminal Defense-Court-Appointed Lawyer in D.C.?**
- **AI for Small Firms**
- **AI in Action - ChatGPT & Descript for Law Firm Marketing**

- **Avoiding the Unauthorized Practice of Law, Especially When Waiving into the D.C. Bar**
- **Law Firm Partnerships: What to Know Before and After Tying the Knot**
- **Lawyers & ADHD**

If you are interested in a practice management assessment, [click here](#).

– Kaitlin & Dan

In other news . . .

For more tips on transitioning out of public service, read our [latest article in Duly Noted](#).

For the recent results of the groundbreaking study on attorney mental health and well-being, [click here](#).

Read the [LAP Spring Newsletter](#).

For more information on PMAS programs, [click here](#).

CLE, Communities Events & Pro Bono:

Continuing Legal Education programs are [here](#).

Communities Events are [here](#).

Pro Bono Center training programs are scheduled [here](#).

As we return to D.C. Bar headquarters for meetings and events, everyone entering the building will need to comply with the [COVID Guidelines](#).

Our Practice Management Advisors are:

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Practice Management Advisors have a free and confidential relationship with D.C. Bar members pursuant to Rule 1.6(j) of the D.C. Rules of Professional Conduct.

The image is a promotional graphic for the District of Columbia Practice Manual. It features a red background on the left with white text. The text reads "District of Columbia Practice Manual" in a large, bold font, followed by "Every D.C. Lawyer's Must-Have Resource" in a smaller font. Below this is the DC BAR logo. On the right side, there is a photograph of the actual book, which is a two-volume set with a dark, textured cover. The cover text reads "The District of Columbia PRACTICE MANUAL 29th EDITION".

District of Columbia Practice Manual

Every D.C. Lawyer's Must-Have Resource

DCBAR

The District of Columbia
**PRACTICE
MANUAL**
29th EDITION

This two-volume title, typically priced at \$495, is being offered to subscribers of this newsletter at a discounted rate of \$450. To obtain the discount code, please reach out to communitiesregistration@dcbar.org.



Serving our members so they can serve the community

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[Practice 360°](#) | [Courses and Trainings](#) | [Mentoring Resource](#)