

**State Bar Mission – A Call to  
Action and How the Bar Can Help**

***Coconino County Bar Association  
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**Agenda**

- History/Mission
- Lawyer Regulation
- Bar Services
- Find a Lawyer

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**History**

- In 1895 the first bar association for Arizona Territory created
- Arizona Bar Association incorporated in 1906 and adopted ABA ethical rules in 1912
- Legislature created integrated State Bar of Arizona in 1933
- Joint oversight by Legislature and Supreme Court began in 1973
- Sole oversight by Supreme Court since 1985

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## Rule 32 – Bar Mission

Mission: “exists to serve and protect the public with respect to the provision of legal services and access to justice.”

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## Attorney Oath

“...I will support the fair administration of justice, professionalism among lawyers, and legal representation for those unable to afford counsel...”

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## Creed of Professionalism

“D. With respect to the public and to our system of justice:

1) I will remember that...my responsibilities as a lawyer include a devotion to the public good;...

5) I will be mindful that the law is a learned profession and that among its desirable goals are devotion to public service, improvement of administration of justice, and the contribution of uncompensated time and civic influence on behalf of those persons who cannot afford adequate legal assistance.”

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## Lawyer Regulation

The screenshot shows the State Bar of Arizona website. The main heading is "Lawyer Discipline Process". Below it, there are sections for "How the Discipline Process Works" and "What Doesn't the State Bar of Arizona Handle?".

**How the Discipline Process Works**

- What doesn't the State Bar of Arizona handle?
- What happens after a charge is received?
- Informal proceedings
- Formal proceedings
- Discipline cost schedule

**What Doesn't the State Bar of Arizona Handle?**

- The State Bar cannot investigate or discipline attorneys who are not licensed in Arizona.

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## Lawyer Regulation

Early resolution of charges and the efficient and equitable processing of formal disciplinary cases.

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## What happens in a year?

- **3,221 Charges Received**
- 609 Investigations conducted
- 18 Lawyers disbarred
- 44 Lawyers suspended
- 21 Lawyers reprimanded
- 86 Informal sanctions
- 91 Diversion orders/Agreements
- 204 Instructional Comments

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### Who's Complaining?

- 50% the client
- 27% the opposing party
- 7% other (victim, expert)
- 5% relative/friend of client

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### What Do They Complain About?

- 18% Communications
- 16% Diligence in representation
- 13% Conduct prejudicial to administration of justice
- 11% Fees
- 10% Not following client directives

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### High Risk Practices

- 27 % Criminal law
- 18 % Family law
- 9 % Civil Litigation

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## Staying Out of Trouble



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## How To Avoid Trouble?

- If you get that feeling...
- Set expectations with the client at the outset of the representation
- Communicate with your clients
- Do what you say you're going to do or explain why the plan has changed.
- Use the Ethics Hotline: 602-340-7284

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## What If the Bar Calls?

- If contacted you are required to respond.
- Telephone call versus a request for a written response.
- A trusted friend to provide objective feedback.
- Be forthright in all of your responses.
- Don't take it out on the client, don't charge for the response and don't ask them to dismiss the charge.

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## State Bar Services

- Member Tools
  - FastCase
  - Practice 2.0
  - Ethics Hotline
- Member Discounts
- Professional Development/Support
  - Bar Leadership Institute
  - Certified Legal Specialist
  - Member Assistance Prgm
- CLE

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## Getting Involved

- Sections
- Committees
- Advisory Groups
- Task Forces
- Pro Bono Work

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## Find-a-Lawyer Platform



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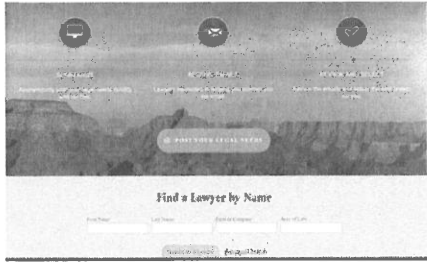
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## Traditional Member Directory Search



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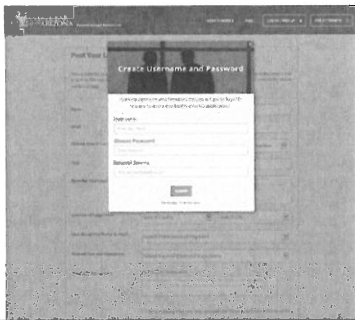
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## How does it work?



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## Summarize and post your case



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## How would you prefer to pay?



**Post Your Legal Need**

Please describe your legal need in the text of your case. We will review your case and notify you through the system for a period of 30 days. We will then contact you again. Please be sure to provide all necessary information to help us understand your case.

**Name:** [Text Field]

**Address:** [Text Field]

**City/State/Zip:** [Text Field]

**Phone:** [Text Field]

**Case Description:** [Text Area]

**Location of Legal Need:** [Text Field]

**How Would You Prefer to Pay?** [Radio Buttons: Pro Bono, Low Bono, Standard Fee]

**Additional Contact Information:** [Text Field]

**Check for Similarity:** [Text Field]

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## Pro Bono and Volunteer Opportunities

- Clients choose cost level including pro bono and low bono
- Pro bono cases go to all attorneys in area of practice
- SBA can also post volunteer projects from partners



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## Totals to Date



Client accounts: 6240  
Projects posted: 3984  
Attorney applications: 8264  
Premium attorney accounts: 343

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## Project Type



- Fee Projects: 3837
- Fee Projects w/ Apps: 2873
- Pro Bono Projects: 412
- Pro Bono Projects w/ Apps: 223

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## Premium Account is a Lead Generator

- Pro bono network is free
- Premium network is \$300 yr
- Attorneys can review the case before you talk to client
- View a dashboard of prospective clients

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## Coconino County Stats

- Opportunity for growth?!
- 81 cases since launch of prgm
- 4 attorneys participating

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