



Member Communications

The primary purpose of The Missouri Bar is service to its members. In keeping with that guiding principle, the state bar's Communications Department recognizes that easy access to timely information is a vital need for busy attorneys in a fast-paced world. As a result, the organization constantly strives to expand upon and improve its publications and other forms of communication to ensure that its members' needs are met.

Of course, the premiere source for instantaneous information is The Missouri Bar's website (www.mobar.org). The site includes extensive information related to virtually every program or service available to members through the state bar.

Lawyers will find the website's "members only" section most appealing. Using their bar number and PIN, both located on their membership card, lawyers may perform a variety of functions. For example, members can alter their personal information, join committees or sections, participate in committee listservs, and choose their preferred delivery format for various bar publications. Four major bar publications – *Precedent*, *The Legislative Digest*, *The Courts Bulletin* and the *Journal of The Missouri Bar* – are available in the traditional print version or electronically via e-mail notification and link. Similar options are available for CLE notices, and delivery options may be changed in the "members only" section of the website. Additionally, lawyers may register online for future CLE seminars, order publications over the Internet, and download public information brochures.

Enhancing the website's value is a recent redesign and restructuring. The new version of the site is much more user-friendly, featuring expanded and descriptive drop-

down menus, integrated search capability, and ready access to the latest news and activities of interest – all incorporated into an easy-to-follow organization and design. The site also features an easy-to-find link to the Fastcase legal research member benefit and useful links to other relevant websites.

In addition, the new website includes enhanced two-way interactive communication capabilities and offers easy access to the state bar's enhanced presence on popular social media platforms such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter.

For lawyers serving on Missouri Bar committees, the creation of listservs for each committee has greatly facilitated improved communication among lawyers across the state. Using this resource, members can exchange information, offer assistance to one another, provide moral support, and refer cases outside their geographic area. Figures indicate that a significant percentage of the memberships of most bar committees utilize the committee listservs.

A further commitment to easy access to information is embodied in *ESQ*, The Missouri Bar's weekly electronic newsletter. Each Missouri Bar member whose e-mail address is on record with the state bar receives *ESQ* every Friday. Each issue of *ESQ* includes summaries of every Supreme Court or Missouri Court of Appeals decision from that week, as well as links to the full text of those opinions. Practice tips, key governmental press releases, issues affecting the practice of law, state legal services information, law school alumni news, and upcoming MoBarCLE programs are also included in each issue. *ESQ* continues to draw rave reviews from lawyers who appreciate its timeliness and valuable information.

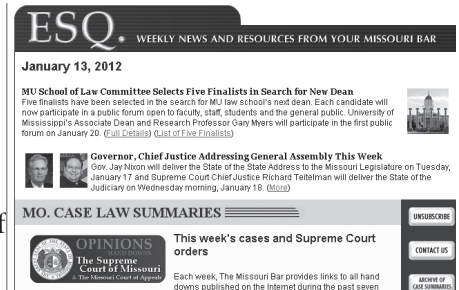
While *ESQ* provides weekly summaries of court decisions, *The Courts Bulletin* specializes in providing more in-depth reporting on the latest court decisions. Each month volunteer attorneys, all authorities in their respective subject areas, prepare case summaries for publication. *The Courts Bulletin* is available to all members free of charge upon request.



Previous website



Current website



All members also receive bi-monthly *The Journal of The Missouri Bar*. *The Journal* is The Missouri Bar's official publication, and a valuable reference tool for attorneys, with substantive articles on the latest legal issues. Regular columns, notices of Supreme Court rule changes and more can be found in each issue. Prior issues of the *Journal* may also be found on The Missouri Bar's website.

The newest addition to the roster of regularly appearing Missouri Bar publications is *Precedent*, which made its debut in 2007. Published quarterly, *Precedent* is a practice-oriented publication with recurring features on such issues as ethics, practice tips, work-life balance, legal technology, professionalism, and the business aspects of running a practice. In addition, each issue of *Precedent* includes one or more features providing in-depth coverage of timely issues facing the legal profession or justice system. *Precedent* is available to members either in hard copy form or electronically.

Many committees and sections of The Missouri also regularly publish newsletters – either as hard copies or electronically – to inform their members of developments in particular areas of the law. In addition, members receive special mailings throughout the year for meeting registration, committee materials, and more. The state bar regularly includes those materials on its website for greater ease of access and registration.

The Missouri Bar takes pride in bringing each of these publications to its members via its own in-house printing facilities. From inception to mailing, Missouri Bar equipment and personnel are responsible for the development and production of all publications, resulting in tremendous cost savings and the freeing up of resources for other programs of interest. To that end, The Missouri Bar will continue to invest in equipment that will allow it to more efficiently and effectively meet the individual needs of its members.

