The Mission of the ISBA General Practice, Solo & Small Firm Section:

To promote professional excellence among those engaged in the general practice of law through education relating to substantive legal practice areas; and by providing opportunities for the exchange of information particularly pertinent to the needs of solo and small firm practitioners.

Continuing Legal Education

The Section sponsored the following programs during the year:

- Starting & Running Your Own Law Practice (02/08/19)
- General Practice Update 2019: Quincy Regional Event (03/29/19)

Section members also receive discounts on section-sponsored CLE programs.

Legislation

The Section Council reviews proposed legislation that may affect their members’ practice area. Highlights of the most recent legislative session include:

1. Number of bills reviewed: 95
2. Significant legislation:
   a. HB 2233 – Changes the special interrogatory statute
   b. HB 185 – Equal parenting presumption
   c. SB 2128 – Creates “voice writer” court reporting

Newsletters

During the 2018-19 bar year, the Section published 4 newsletters. Articles included:

- Chair’s column (Sept. 2018)
- From the ex-officioTips for representing stepparents in uncontested adoption cases (Sept. 2018)
- Child’s finger amputated and seventh circuit blames parents (Sept. 2018)
- Chair’s column: Succession plans – a basic need (Nov. 2018)
- Succession planning: The proposed Supreme Court Rule 781 (Nov. 2018)
- Committee approved final draft (042718): Approved by the ISBA Board of Governors and ISBA Assembly June 2018 (Nov. 2018)
- Artificial insemination and the intersection of same-sex marriage (Dec. 2018)
- “But, they didn’t give me my Miranda rights!” (Dec. 2018)
- In re Marriage of Hodges: Equitable estoppel revisited (Dec. 2018)
- Reading the advance sheets (Dec. 2018)
- Editor’s column (Apr. 2019)
- HIPAA-compliant court orders in personal injury cases (Apr. 2019)

ISBA Central

- Members of the ISBA section get free access to the section’s community on ISBA Central. The ISBA Central community allows section members to pose questions, answer questions, and share information with fellow section members from around the state.

General:

- Section dues are $30 per year.
- To join, go to www.isba.org/sections