



Section on General Practice, Solo & Small Firm

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.

General:

- ◆ Section fees are \$25 per year.
- ◆ To join, go to www.isba.org/sections

[Continuing Legal Education](#)

The Section sponsored or co-sponsored two programs during the year:

- ◆ **Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56: Summary Judgment – A Refresher** (Oct. 26, 2016)
- ◆ **Settlement in Federal Court Cases** (May 10, 2017)

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

[Newsletters](#)

Delivered electronically unless otherwise requested. During 2016-17 the Section published four newsletters. Articles include:

- ◆ 2016 amendments to the health care power of attorney (Aug. 2016)
- ◆ The ACLU's Illinois Judicial Bypass Coordination Project (July 2016)
- ◆ Chair's column: Early 2017—Time to reflect, adjust and balance your life (Mar. 2017)
- ◆ Chair's column (July 2016)
- ◆ Chair's column: Considerations for building strong attorney-client relationships (Aug. 2016)
- ◆ The Committees on Character and Fitness (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ Editor's Column: iPad Pro – expensive but worth it if it meets your needs! Two versions to choose from (July 2016)
- ◆ Editor's note (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ Editor's column: The computer boogeymen are out there! Make sure you have good antivirus and malware software, use secure passwords and backup, backup, and backup! (Mar. 2017)
- ◆ Great research tool— The ISBA Web site is new and improved! (July 2016)
- ◆ In re Estate of Agin—Deceased beneficiary of uncle's land trust outlived uncle but died before distribution of trust sale proceeds. Decedent's trust share held to be an asset of his estate and did not pass to his children under trust agreement (Aug. 2016)
- ◆ New 'office away from the office' especially for the small, non-downtown firms (July 2016)
- ◆ A primer on trial preparation (Mar. 2017)
- ◆ Registration – An important function of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ Tradition of Excellence Award (Mar. 2017)
- ◆ Understanding and Protecting Fathers' Rights (July 2016)

[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: 64
2. Significant legislation:
 - a. House Bill 2537 – Maintenance guidelines revision
 - b. Senate Bill 584 - Illinois Administrative Procedure Act
 - c. Senate Bill 885 - Installment Sales Contract Act

Other

- ◆ [The ISBA General Practice, Solo & Small Firm Discussion List](#) allows section members to pose questions and share information with fellow section members from around the state.