

# Briefs

■ DIVERSITY ■ JOB TRENDS ■ LAW SCHOOL ENROLLMENT ■ NECROLOGY ■

## Attorney hiring may grow despite economy

**B**ucking current downward economic trends, nearly half of law firms and legal departments indicated in a recent survey that they expect to hire more lawyers in the next year. Only 3 percent expected reductions in their attorney staffing, according to a survey conducted by an independent research firm for Robert Half Legal, a legal staffing firm.

Hiring was expected to increase in several specialty practice areas related to an expected downturn in the economy. About 25 percent of survey respondents predicted hiring in bankruptcy, and another 24 percent indicated litigation as another growth area. Ethics and corporate governance was expected to see growth, according to about 17 percent of lawyers who responded to the survey.

“Caseloads are rising, both in corporate legal departments and within law firms,” said Robert Half Legal Executive Director Charles Volkert. “A higher volume of litigation and an ongoing focus on corporate governance mandates continue to drive legal hiring activity.”

## Diversity Programs Expand in Largest U.S. Law Firms

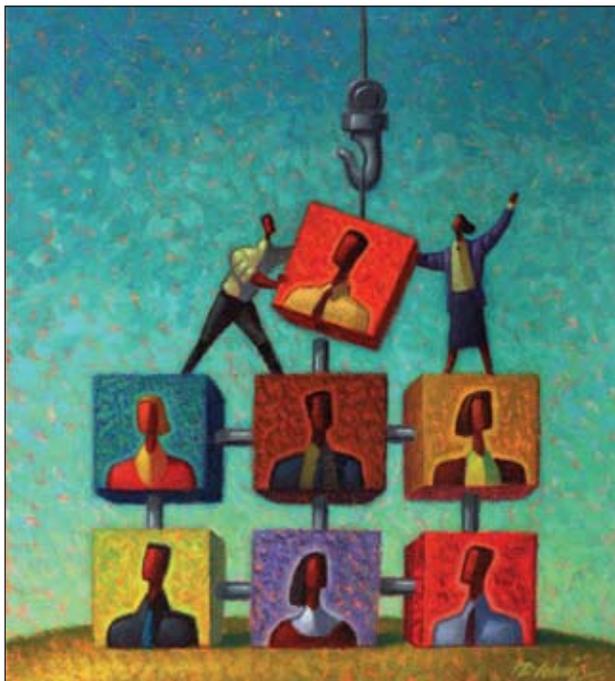
**A** full 100 percent of large U.S. firms surveyed reported having a diversity committee at the firm, according to a new survey conducted by Altman Weil, a management consulting firm for the legal industry. The 2008 Flash Survey on the Diversity Director Position in Large Law Firms revealed that the 80 participating firms from the AmLaw 200 saw increased focus on diversity at their firms.

“This year, for the first time, more than half of law firms surveyed report having a diversity director,” said

Virginia Essandoh, an Altman Weil senior consultant. “This continuing investment in diversity is a positive sign, and is reflected in recent industry studies showing some increases in large firms’ diversity demographics.” Increasingly, diversity managers at firms are lawyers at the firm who still have a billable hours requirement, which researchers indicate may dilute diversity efforts. “Diversity directors consistently tell us that the position requires total focus in order to do it well,” Essandoh said. “Putting practicing lawyers in this role almost certainly reduces the overall effectiveness of firms’ diversity efforts.”

Law firm diversity directors have varied responsibilities, including participation in recruiting, hiring, professional development, and to a lesser extent lawyer compensation and partner reviews. Primarily, they are charged with developing and executing goals to increase diversity at the firm and develop programs for firm employees to increase awareness of diversity issues.

Firm spending on diversity efforts is up slightly, with compensation for diversity managers increasing 5.1 percent from 2007 to \$184,000 and budget allocation reaching about \$477,500.



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## Andrew Hamilton Gala to Celebrate Heroes of Legal Community

**J**oin your colleagues for the social event of the season for the Philadelphia legal community, the Philadelphia Bar Foundation's annual Andrew Hamilton Gala. The gala will be held at the 23rd Street Armory on Friday, November 1 at 7 p.m. At the gala, the Foundation presents the Morris Shuster Fellowships, the Citizens Bank Pro Bono Award and the Philadelphia Bar Foundation Award to attorneys who have provided outstanding legal services to those in need.

Purchase your gala tickets and donate to the Foundation online at [philadelphiabar.org](http://philadelphiabar.org). Proceeds from the event are used for grants to law-related programs in the Philadelphia area that assist the indigent, elderly and disabled, as well as abused women and children.

## Get Published in THE PHILADELPHIA LAWYER

The Editorial Board of The Philadelphia Lawyer magazine welcomes submissions and is particularly interested in receiving substantive articles from attorneys and other professionals in which they share their expertise on law-related topics. Articles must be original and previously unpublished.

Those interested in submitting manuscripts should adhere to the following word counts:

- \* Major law-related articles, 2,500 words
- \* Other law-related features, 1,500 words
- \* Fiction, 1,500 words
- \* General interest, 1,250 words
- \* Practice areas, 1,000 words
- \* Essays or humor, 750 words
- \* Book reviews, 500 words

For more information about submitting articles, send an e-mail to the Managing Editor at [tplmag@philabar.org](mailto:tplmag@philabar.org).

## Law School Enrollment Dips for Women, Up for Minorities

**L**aw schools saw only a slight increase in total enrollment for the 2007-08 school year, with women and minorities showing opposite growth trends, according to a new American Bar Association report.

The ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar report gathered data from 198 law schools. The statistics showed that total enrollment increased by less than half of a percent, from 141,031 in the 2006-07 academic year to 141,433 in 2007-08, while first-year enrollment was flat across the same timeframe.

Total enrollment by women dropped by .1 percent in that time, despite a 2.4 percent increase in first-year female enrollment from the previous year.

Minorities showed flat total enrollment at 21.6 percent of total enrollment and a slight gain of .9 percent of first-year enrollment. The gain in first-year enrollment was offset by total enrollment growth, reducing minority representation in the first-year class from 22.4 percent to 22.3 percent.

## NECROLOGY

APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2008

**JOSEPH P. CLARK**  
May 17, 2008, age 68

**MARTIN BARRY PITKOW**  
May 27, 2008

**STEVEN B. GOODMAN**  
June 16, 2008

**DAVID K. ROSCHER**  
June 25, 2008, age 51

**FILMORE S. HAROWITZ**  
May 11, 2008

**JUDGE ALBERT R. SUBERS**  
May 27, 2008

**PAUL DAVID HENRIKSEN**  
April 28, 2008

**SIDNEY B. KLOVSKY**  
May 8, 2008, age 85

**JAMES F. MONTEITH**  
April 27, 2008, age 71

Information about recently deceased Philadelphia-area lawyers and judges should be sent to Managing Editor, *The Philadelphia Lawyer*, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th floor, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107-2955 or e-mail information to [tplmag@philabar.org](mailto:tplmag@philabar.org).

*Have you considered a contribution to the Philadelphia Bar Foundation in memory of a deceased colleague?*

FOR INFORMATION CALL:

**Foundation Executive Director Gene Simi, 215-238-6334**

