

5 **Letters**

8 **President's Message**

This past year, ABA initiatives made a difference from communities to Capitol Hill.

11 **Opening Statements**

Animal welfare advocates put bite into measures that make it illegal for pet stores to buy from puppy mills.

12 New documentary examines how media saturation influenced the 1991 Pamela Smart murder trial.

14 The Forum on Law, Culture and Society moves to a new home at NYU School of Law. / Activists hope to sound the death knell for some regulations in the funeral industry.

15 Short takes and fast facts on the law.

16 Cartoon Caption Contest: Check out last month's winner and try crafting a caption for the current cartoon.

17 **Docket**

NATIONAL PULSE Lawyers pursue secular solutions to the Orthodox Jewish divorce problem.

20 NATIONAL PULSE Gun owners are looking to join prepaid legal defense plans.

23 SUPREME COURT REPORT Justices regularly seek to change the errors of their written ways.

26 **Practice**

ETHICS As California reviews its lawyer discipline standards, other jurisdictions watch closely.

28 WORDS A good opener that engages the reader and gets to the point is the most crucial part of any discourse.

30 CRAFTING STORIES Think of your trial as a screenplay, with the judge and jury watching the drama unfold.

62 **Your ABA**

Growing numbers of U.S. lawyers are doing pro bono work in other countries.

64 The ABA Annual Meeting in Boston features a new format to reduce scheduling conflicts, inspire a sense of community.

65 **Legal Practice**



EVOLVING
LegalZoom
general counsel
Chas Rampenthal
is ready for change.

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33 **Business of Law**

LAW PRACTICE Legal victories leave LegalZoom poised to expand the range of services it offers consumers and small businesses.

35 TECHNOLOGY Automatic updates are the latest from providers of customer relationship management software.

36 LAW SCRIBBLER Firm scuttles tradition by eliminating practice groups, organizing into industry groups instead.

37 LAW BY THE NUMBERS Most law firms are keeping tight reins on new, faster, and more digital business

Obiter Dicta

Precedents