

- 8 **President's Message**  
A look at ABA Day and the need to lobby for funding of the Legal Services Corp.
- 9 **Opening Statements**  
Mystery and thriller writers tell the stories of the wrongfully convicted.
- 10 A Florida lawyer dedicates her firm to helping marine mammals.
- 11 Public defender co-workers discover they're siblings who've led parallel lives only a few miles apart.
- 12 Ten questions for Brittany Heyd, general counsel for a business incubator supporting social innovation.
- 13 Cartoon of the month: See last month's contest winner, and craft a caption for the current cartoon.
- 14 Years of litigation and financial forensics finally result in first payments to victims of Iran-sponsored terrorism.
- 15 Short takes and fast facts on the law.
- 16 **Docket**  
**NATIONAL PULSE** Advocates for Detroit school-children say there is a constitutional right to literacy.
- 18 **NATIONAL PULSE** California district attorney launches a special unit to crack down on perjury.
- 20 **SUPREME COURT REPORT** Can Trump triumph in the high court? Law pros note a decline in presidents' rates of winning cases.
- 22 **Practice**  
**ADVOCACY** Leading trial lawyers share inside tips on presenting a compelling opening statement.
- 24 **ETHICS** How a fee shared between lawyers from different firms should be disbursed.
- 26 **WORDS** The secret to effective pleadings is a clear and succinct statement of the issues.
- 28 **Business of Law: Special Edition**  
**BUILDING THE 21ST-CENTURY LAW FIRM**  
The nuts and bolts of adding a virtual practice and the need for access, efficiency and upkeep.
- 31 **ACCESS TO JUSTICE** Illinois Legal Aid Online's redesign earns praise of being the best website in the country.
- 32 **AMBROGI ON TECH** Most solos and small firms consider their practices successful despite their juggling act.



**BRITTANY HEYD**  
"When institutions don't work for the people, the people must change" them.

12

- 66 **Your ABA**  
A tribute to the late Janet Reno, who worked closely with the ABA on justice issues during her years as U.S. attorney general.
- 68 While closing its office in China, the association measures the impact of a new law restructuring NGO activities.
- 70 The ABA scored victories last year to protect lawyer-client confidentiality and the independence of the profession.
- 72 **Precedents**  
The Supreme Court confirms the conviction of Wisconsin abolitionist Sherman Booth, verifying the power of the supremacy clause of the Constitution.