

**ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
FLYING SOLO PANEL
2024**

Written Materials

Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Los Angeles
Virtual MCLE-Qualified Program
Wednesday, March 27, 2024
6:30 – 7:30 PM PT

This event is certified for 1.0 general participatory MCLE credit.
APABA is a California State Bar approved MCLE provider.

Materials

- State Bar of California, Sample Fee Agreement (May 17, 2019) (last accessed March 24, 2024),
https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/forms/Sample_Fee_Agreements.docx
 - **Summary:** Sample forms drafted by the State Bar of California for a variety of legal matters, and offered free for use by California attorneys. Forms include critical provisions to cover attorney-client engagements.
- The State Bar of California, Bar Brief 3 (Dec. 11, 2019),
<https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/BarBrief/Bar-Brief-3.pdf>.
 - **Excerpt:** Smaller Firms Dominate the Legal Landscape - Looking more closely at law firms, the largest share of attorneys are found in small firms of between two and ten attorneys. Given that roughly one in five attorneys in California work as a solo practitioner, approximately one in three of all attorneys in the state works either as a solo practitioner or in a small firm.
- *Solo Practice or Big Law: How to Determine Going Solo*, The National Law Review (Nov. 22, 2021),
<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/solo-practice-or-big-law-how-to-determine-going-solo>.
 - **Excerpt:** As younger generations become more represented in the workforce, all industries are seeing a shift away from the “hustle” culture with an increased focus on work/life balance and fulfillment. The legal industry is no exception, and more lawyers are weighing their options between solo practice and big law. Advancements in legal technology have made it easier than ever for lawyers to leave “big law” and make the leap into solo practice to gain control and flexibility with their schedules.

Before lawyers can take this step, it’s important that they consider the pros and cons of opening a solo practice or entering big law. The legal field is more competitive than ever and clients’ expectations from both solo practice and big law are high. Whether you’re considering leaving big law or recently passed the bar, we’ve compiled the advantages and disadvantages of going small or solo to help you make the best decision for your legal career.
- Alan Klevan, *2023 Solo & Small Firm*, American Bar Association (Feb. 5, 2024),
https://www.americanbar.org/groups/law_practice/resources/tech-report/2023/2023-solo-and-small-firm/

- o **Summary:** The ABA TechReport 2023 pairs data from the 2023 Legal Technology Survey Report, which surveyed practicing attorneys, with analysis, observations, and predictions from experts in the legal technology field. With the emergence of new technologies and the allure of working either closer to home or actually from home using these new technologies, solo practitioners and small law firms have now become the norm. Solo practitioners and those working in small firms can improve their work-life balance, either by using technology more effectively in their practice or by effectively managing their practices and themselves.