

# Letters to the Editor

## On the Bar Exam

I fully agree with Clarence M. Dunnaville Jr.'s argument that the bar exam should be abolished.

A few months ago, I reviewed the questions for the July 2008 exam that I took. I recalled few of the questions and even fewer of my answers. I did remember enough to know that my passing answers bore little resemblance to the model answers suggested by several law professors after discussion with the bar examiners, as posted on the William and Mary Law School website.

In fact, the single most useful piece of advice offered in the bar review course I took was this: "If you don't know the rule, think about what the rule would be if you were in charge. Make something up and argue it. You want the grader to think, 'This person will make a pretty good lawyer if he ever learns the rules.'"

If that's how the bar exam measures candidates' minimum competence to practice law, the test certainly has outlived its usefulness.

John Frazer  
Alexandria

## No female attorneys?

Your choice of a cover photo for *Virginia Lawyer's* October 2012 issue dismays me. Where are the female attorneys? Virginia should be leading the way to be more inclusive of women in the legal profession and a cover photo with four men on it is anachronistic.

Susan Hamsher  
Arlington

## Letters

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