

THE BIZILAW NEWSLETTER

In Celebration

Dec 2009

Page 1

The Bizilaw Newsletter provides you with news information and updates on practice management and community news. We hope to make the practice of law easier on the legal profession.

This is our last newsletter for 2009. We would like to thank you for your friendship and support over the year; and especially for bestowing on us the gift of your good company and insightful conversations.

We thank you for continuously challenging our creativity, inspiring us to explore new ideas, and motivating us to do better. Some ideas never get off the drawing board, some take flight halfway and then falter, and some actually do succeed. What is important is that we continue to enjoy what we do and do it with passion.

In our quest to "do good and do better", our RESOLUTIONS FOR 2010, are -

1. Build efficient bridges that enable law firm systems to speak to government systems.
2. Ramp up the development of intelligent templates for Hotdocs and LEAP systems to facilitate efficient and accurate document output for lawyers.
3. Inspire, equip and support new practice startups.
4. Assisting solo and small practice lawyers adapt and stay relevant to the demands of a changing world.
5. Provide essential e-discovery education and awareness to litigation lawyers
6. Provide continued thought leadership in all areas where legal processes intersect with technology.

Wishing everyone a Successful 2010,



DEC 2009 ISSUE

Inside this issue:

In Celebration of Lawyers - Invitation to a Party

Start A Law Firm Today!

Electronic Discovery: Opportunities & Challenges

Fresh Starts in 2010

Free Advisory Services from Bizibody

The time has come round again to honor all the unsung heroes in our profession who provide a valuable service to individuals and businesses; day in day out, solving problems, meeting needs and serving the cause of justice. We warmly invite all lawyers to a celebration party:

IN CELEBRATION OF LAWYERS
Thurs 21 January 2010 6-9pm @ The Pod,
16th Level National Library, Singapore

Look forward to a sumptuous buffet with wine, an exhibition (and live demos) of innovative new software & gadgets; and talks on Social Media & Lawyers; Managing the Press; Cool Stuff for Lawyers (and some of it is free!); Legal Resources beyond Lawnet and more.

Free Admission | Register at WWW.BIZIBODY.BIZ/EVENTS



THE BIZILAW NEWSLETTER

In Celebration

Dec 2009

Page 2



START A LAW FIRM TODAY!

We are happy to report that, after the lifting of the dark clouds of recession, we are now seeing more lawyers break away from large firms to set up with a small band of friends or flying solo.

Whether motivated by a desire to "break out of the evil empire", or to carve out a path of their own, or perhaps (the cynical view) symptomatic of a mid-life crisis, they have decided to take the plunge. In the last nine months we have helped set up several boutique law practices specializing in Corpsec, IP, Litigation and Corporate work.

This is not a peculiarly "Singapore" phenomenon.

As the inspiring (albeit overdramatic) post from Susan Cartier Liebel*, entitled "It's A Brave New World" puts it *"Today's legal world is the same as the oppressed leaving England to discover America, free enterprise and capitalism sans the horrific caste system.... Lawyers don't want to run the gauntlet known as the 'partnership track' before they can start controlling their lives. Opportunity is everywhere because today lawyers have the tools they never did before to go small firm or solo and actively compete with the big boys both in quality and demographic reach. The economy is deconstructing and reconstructing. The clients don't want 'business as usual. We are in many ways entering a brave new world in 2010. And it is very exciting. At least for those who realize this upheaval presents tremendous opportunity..."*

*Susan Lieber is the founder of "Solo Practice University" a web-based educational and professional networking community for lawyers focused on empowering, connecting and facilitating discourse on practice issues - visit www.solopracticeuniversity.com/

Introducing WWW.START-A-LAW-FIRM.COM

We have enjoyed the privilege of helping lawyers realise their dream of setting up their own practice. Its time to give back to the community! Inspired by Susan Liebel, Carolyn Elefant and scores of other bloggers who are sharing their experiences and providing free resources on the internet for solo and small practice lawyers, we have launched www.start-a-law-firm.com

This website offers FREE articles, forms and templates for law practice owners; including a downloadable **START-UP KIT** which contains a useful Registration & Compliance Checklist. The information is intended to help lawyers navigate the practical issues of setting up and running their own practice.

Articles posted on www.start-a-law-firm include -
Going Solo: Do You Have What It Takes?
Generalist v Specialist: What Makes Sense?
A Road Map: Sample Business & Marketing Plan for a Law Practice

Visit www.start-a-law-firm.com today. Send us your feedback, we'd love to hear from you.



Law Practice START UP KIT

visit www.start-a-law-firm.com
to download your copy

THE BIZILAW NEWSLETTER

In Celebration

Dec 2009

Page 3

E-DISCOVERY: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

As a seasoned litigator you have seen all the tricks in the book, and even used some to good effect in difficult cases; but PD3 of 2009 (the "E-Discovery PD") introduces a whole new world of technology driven discovery which will challenge even the most seasoned litigator.

There are compelling reasons why you should be concerned about their obligations in relation to discovery of electronic documents. Leading cases - *Fermin Aldabe v Standard Chartered Bank*; *K Solutions Pte Ltd v National University of Singapore* ; *Alliance Management v Pendleton Lane*; *Digicel (St Lucia) Ltd & Others v Cable & Wireless PLC & Others* - are hugely significant in that they show the importance the Law Courts have placed on the preservation and disclosure of electronic evidence. Counsel who failed to address discovery issues relating to electronic documents or have neglected to advise their clients to preserve electronic data have had adverse inferences drawn by the Court; and in harsher cases, striking out without consideration of its merits.

(To read "What's the Big Deal about E-Discovery" in the Dec Issue of our E-Discovery Newsletter. Download the newsletter from www.bizibody.biz/e-discovery or write to info@bizibody.biz to request a copy)

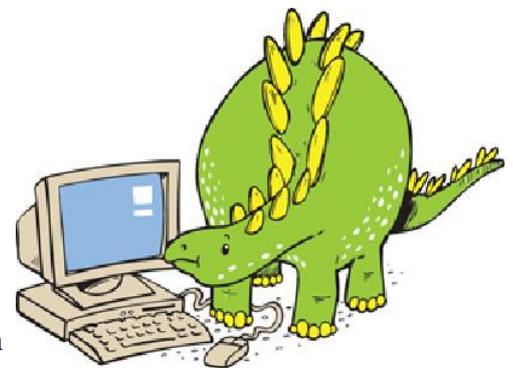
The intersection of law and technology has moved from the back-rooms to the very forefront of legal practice; to create an impact not merely on the delivery of legal services, but in the determination of its outcome and content.

We recognize that for many lawyers electronic discovery is uncharted and unknown territory; riddled with incomprehensible technical jargon and pitfalls for the uninitiated. Like learning a new language, we believe that the intersection of technology and law can best be picked up through a mix of guided discussions, scenario-based learning, live demos and opportunities to network with serious minded practitioners, e-discovery consultants and data forensic experts.

Bizibody will be teaming up with SAL and Forensic E-Discovery experts to run a series of Workgroup Sessions in the New Year focused on the discovery of electronic evidence and related legal issues. Content will include -

The E-Discovery PD - Its Impact and Case Law | # Preservation of Electronic Evidence | # Collection & Processing of Electronic Evidence | # Review of Electronic Evidence | # Production & Inspection of Electronic Evidence | # Pitfalls & Best Practices in E-Discovery

Visit www.bizibody.biz/e-discovery to find out more.

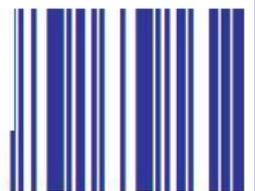


are you a protodigitaurus?

bizilaw newsletter



ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY



Issue 1 - Nov 2009 - Inaugural Issue

Electronic Discovery in Singapore: Background & Evolution | Impact of PD on Litigation | Bizibody's E-Discovery Workgroup Sessions Faxback

Issue 2 - Dec 2009

Moving Away from Proto-Digital | Nature of the Beast | What's The Big Deal in E-Discovery

To Receive Further Copies, email info@bizibody.biz

Bizibody Technology Pte Ltd

www.bizibody.biz | slim@bizibody.biz | tel 6236 2848 | Fax 6538 0703

THE BIZILAW NEWSLETTER

In Celebration

Dec 2009

Page 4

If you are planning on making **A FRESH START IN 2010** - you are already half-way towards achieving your goal. Overcoming inertia is the biggest obstacle to achieving a more rewarding and balanced professional life. As we approach the year-end, take time off to reflect on what you would like to achieve for your practice.

How far have you taken your law practice towards the ideals you started out with?

What's holding you back from running your "dream" practice?

What will it take to revive your enthusiasm and verve as a practice owner?

List the areas you want improved - it may be better cash flow management or higher service standards or deeper client relationships. Perhaps you have always wanted to specialise in a particular area of law. Maybe you feel ready to "ramp up" your business through new hires and aggressive marketing. Why not start in 2010?

Draw up an action plan - you will have a better chance of success at modest goals than overly ambitious ones that never get off the drawing board. Start with a SMART ("Specific - Measurable - Attainable - Result Driven - Time Based") Analysis; and be prepared to commit your time and, in most cases, expense, to achieving your objectives. Unless you are a solo practitioner with no staff, make it a team effort where collaboration and communication is key.

FREE ADVISORY SERVICES to start-ups, solos and small law firms.

Call us for a chat if you are going to



- Start a New Law Practice
- Automate Your Law Practice
- Market Your Law Practice on the Internet
- Operate a Client Account
- Be more involved in Your Practice Financials
- Litigate on a Case involving Email or other forms of electronic evidence



+65 6236 2848
+65 9726 7074



info@bizibody.biz
www.bizibody.biz

WHAT'S NEW ON OPEN LAW

Recent forum discussions on OPENLAW include - "It's a Brave New World" and "Apathy & Disconnect at the Law Society"

Invitation to a party "IN CELEBRATION OF LAWYERS"

on Thurs 21 January 6-9pm at the National Library
Admission is free for lawyers. Register at WWW.OPENLAW.COM.SG

OPENLAW has been invited to participate in the Enterprise One Business Information Services (EBIS) Business Networking Events - speaking slots for 2010 now open to interested lawyers.

MEMBERSHIP IS FREE & OPEN TO ALL SMALL PRACTICE LAWYERS

THIS GROUP CONSISTS OF

 198 Group Members you can connect with	 9 Member Objectives you can assist with	 4 Key Connections you can leverage
---	--	---



HOTDOCS is used by law practices around the world to create documents; faster, and more accurately.

Bizibody Forms & Precedents are designed for time and resource challenged solos and small law firms.

Forms contributed by the Hotdocs community of lawyers cover conveyancing, family law, debt recovery, personal injury and corporate secretarial.

Contact us at 62362848 for a demo