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**Article for EBA Quarterly Newsletter**  
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**Report from EBA's Delegate on the January 2019 meeting of the ABA House of Delegates**

Two times a year, the Energy Bar Association sends a delegate to the meeting of the American Bar Association's House of Delegates. Below is a brief synopsis of the January 2019 House of Delegates meeting that was convened during the ABA's Mid-Year Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Formed in 1936, the purpose of the House of Delegates is to connect the ABA and state and local bar associations. The House of Delegates establishes ABA policy regarding both its administration and positions on professional and public issues. EBA is one of 27 affiliated organizations with a delegate relationship with the ABA. In that role, the EBA delegate attends all House of Delegates meetings. EBA's bylaws provide for the appointment of a delegate and that person serves in the House of Delegates for a two-year term. During 2018-2019, EBA's delegate is Susan A. Olenchuk.

At its January meeting, the House of Delegates considered numerous resolutions covering a wide range of topics affecting the legal profession and public policy, including family law, bankruptcy law, LGBT discrimination, lactation facilities in courthouses, paralegal school accreditation, and criminal law. Although none of the resolutions appeared to have any particular impact on the Energy Bar Association (EBA) or its members, the House of Delegates considered and rejected one controversial resolution that may be of general interest to EBA members. The proposed resolution addressed whether the bar passage rate standard for accredited law schools should be tightened to require at least a 75 percent passage rate of a law school's graduates who sit for a bar examination within two years of graduation, or risk losing ABA accreditation. The resolution was vigorously debated and defeated.

In addition, during the meeting, a number of speakers addressed the House of Delegates. ABA President Bob Carlson reiterated key principles of the ABA of promoting justice and adherence to the rule of law. ABA Executive Director, Jack Rives, discussed how the ABA's revised membership model, new logo, and refreshed marketing strategy will improve the ABA member experience as the association struggles to retain and regain membership. The HOD also heard remarks from the Honorable Paul Reiber, President of the Conference of Chief Justices.

EBA's participation in the ABA House of Delegates enables EBA to stay apprised of developments affecting the legal profession and to have a voice in ABA policy. Participation in the House of Delegates also enables EBA to connect with other delegates from the Washington D.C. area. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as EBA's delegate to the ABA House of Delegates.