Practical Legal Resources for Technology and Business Development

ABA Techshow 2010 offers tips
on business development, security

by Richard Schenkar

Among the business development, security, and technology topics
offered this year at the American Bar Association's Techshow 2010
were some tools and resources you can put to work in your practice
immediately.

Business Development

Lawyerist.com, at http://lawyerist.com, refers to itself as
"the lawyering survival guide." It covers topics such as careers,
ethics, law school, lawyering skills, marketing, practice management,
starting a law firm, and technology.

If you are interested in alternative fee arrangements or project
management issues, you find answers at http://www.legalbizdev.com.

Legalethics, at http://www.legalethics.com, has a list of topics on
the right side of the home page from which you may narrow your search.
You may also narrow your search by state.

From the Texas Bar, if you have ten minutes, you can learn any number
of tips from an expansive library of free video and audio clips online
at http://www.tenminutementor.com.

Technology

If you use the download utility at http://www.vdownloader.com to download
the video recordings you want to view from Ten Minute Mentor, you will be
able to view them any time you want.

At some point in the near future, you will probably want to set up a
conference call. With the online tool available at http://www.freeconferencecall.com,
you can set up a conference call for up to 96 people and get a (downloaded)
audio transcript of your conference call for free.

If you use Adobe Acrobat (and most all of us do), you will find the weblog at http://www.adobe.com/acrolaw helpful because it discusses uses for the Acrobat program for legal professionals.

Have you seen something online you want to read later? Use the utility available at http://www.instapaper.com to save online pages to read later. There are versions that run on both the iPhone and the Blackberry cellular telephones.

If you want to have a meeting or conference without leaving your office, http://www.mikogo.com allows you to have a web conference or meeting for free.

Garr Reynolds is the presentation expert who offers the blog http://www.presentationzen.com. His own web site, http://www.garrreynolds.com, has some helpful tips on branding, program design, presentations, and resources.

Security

As we do more and more computing at home, our computer security is only as sharp as our weakest link. Generally, it is the home system. The U.S. Department of Energy's Computer Emergency Resource Team offers a Home Security Checklist at http://www.cert.org/homeusers/HomeComputerSecurity and a Home Network Security checklist at http://www.cert.org/tech-tips/home-network.html.

And, if you want to find out how vulnerable your system really is, go to Gibson Research Company's web site at http://www.grc.com where there are a number of free tests you can run under the collection called "ShieldsUP" to discover, in seconds, how easy it is to hack your system and compromise your security--automatically.