



Spring 2012

bliss lawyers bulletin

Attorney Spotlights

Dorota C: Dorota joined bliss lawyers in 2011 and has been working as a consulting attorney for a leading global market research company.

What Dorota Does: Dorota is an intellectual property and commercial transactions attorney. Her work encompasses a wide range of duties, from drafting and negotiating research services agreements to developing and advising on policies and protocols.

Previous Experience: Dorota brings over 7 years of experience to bliss lawyers. She previously worked as an intellectual property attorney for a large law firm in New York City.

More About Dorota: Dorota is a world traveler, amateur interior designer and the mom of the two fastest boys on the planet.

Helaine H: Helaine joined bliss lawyers in 2011 and is a satisfied "customer". The culture is supportive and professional. bliss lawyers has delivered on the "happy clients, happy lawyers" promise.

What Helaine Does: Helaine is a consulting attorney to a global media company and gets to work with a top notch, hard working team in a dynamic,

About bliss lawyers

bliss lawyers is a new legal model combining the benefits of secondment and virtual law firms. With a national network of 10,000 lawyers, we are placing high caliber temporary lawyers with in-house legal departments. Our virtual back office allows us to pass significant cost savings on to our clients while our lawyers typically work at our clients' offices. bliss lawyers is a certified majority woman-owned business, which has been a considerable plus for our clients focused on increasing their use of diverse suppliers.

In the news

With cost-conscious companies increasingly turning to legal secondments and other alternative legal staffing solutions to reduce their legal spend, opportunities for lawyer secondments are expected to continue to grow in the second half of 2012. Here are some notable highlights and headlines that bliss lawyers continues to follow:

Survey says post-recession shifts are here to stay

The Wall Street Journal's law blog looks at life at the country's law firms in the wake of the 2008 financial meltdown. Across the country, firms have been forced to trim lawyers and discount services. This development has lawyers and business leaders alike asking, will these changes be permanent? [Click here](#) to read the results of a new Altman Weil Inc. poll which found that the heads of firms think the answer is yes.

Citibank report shows modest growth in demand for law firm services

AmLaw Daily [reports](#) on a Citi Private Bank report, which found some cause for legal industry optimism during the first quarter of 2012. The modest growth in demand however was tempered by the report's finding that expense growth outpaced revenue growth even more than in 2011.

leading edge business.

Previous Experience: Helaine brings 16 years of experience to bliss lawyers including experience at a top law firm in New York City.

More About Helaine: Helaine prefers flip-flops to sling-backs.

Law firms look for alternatives to the billable hour

A [recent article](#) in the Washington Post considers the search by law firms for alternatives to the billable hour. The article describes the transformation underway at several venerable Washington D.C. law firms. These firms and others across the country are rethinking their business model and the way they charge companies for legal services.

In-House counsel face a spike in M&A litigation

Law.com [reports](#) on a Cornerstone Research study of mergers that found that in 2010 and 2011, approximately 95 percent of all mergers valued at over \$500,000 resulted in litigation. With almost every merger or acquisition these days facing a legal challenge, there is work again for the M&A litigator.

Upcoming Events

The Changing Legal Landscape: Opportunities & Challenges for Women; Blueprinting Women for Success, May 24th Allegheny County Bar Association, Pittsburgh. To register, [click here](#).

Trends in Workplace Redesign for 21st Century Employers & Professionals, May 31st, Philadelphia Estate Planning Council, Philadelphia. To register, [click here](#).

How to Approach Your Employer About Flexibility, Leave or Other Special Needs, June 5th, New York State Bar Association, New York. To register, [click here](#).

5th Annual Women Legal 2012, June 7th, Ark Group, New York. To register, [click here](#).

Personal Career Branding: How to Be the Artistic Director of Your Legal Career, June 25th, Law & Reorder, New York. To register, [click here](#).

Hourly billing rates continue upward climb; partner and senior counsel average is now \$661

Hourly billing rates last year reached an average of \$661 for partners and senior counsel. In 2010, the average for that group was \$639. According to an analysis by the [Daily Report Online](#), associates in 2011 averaged \$445, compared to \$439 in 2010.

New Opportunities

If you are a business interested in learning more about bliss lawyers and its services, [email Garry](#). For more information about our management team, [click here](#).

bliss lawyers is always looking for experienced lawyers and legal professionals. If you are seeking an opportunity to do challenging legal work in an in-house legal department on a temporary basis, with the possibility of converting your engagement into permanent employment, then [join our team](#).

We are seeking to fill several in-house counsel positions in the tri-state area. bliss lawyers has opportunities for lawyers in various practice areas, including corporate, litigation, compliance, bankruptcy, licensing, M&A, trusts & estates, intellectual property and real estate. Our lawyers have experience in numerous industries, including financial services, technology, media, research and development, healthcare, energy, telecommunications and consumer products. Positions vary from part-time to full-time and typically last from 6 months to more than a year, with some of the positions converting into permanent employment. Ideal applicants are well credentialed, with a combination of large law firm and in-house experience and graduation from a top national law school. Please [email](#) your resume.

From the leaders of bliss lawyers



Quick Links

We're always looking for senior and experienced lawyers, and so if you're seeking a more balanced life, then [join our team](#).



bliss lawyers ...it's not an oxymoron