
How to Stay Abreast of Bankruptcy Topics through the Internet

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As a bankruptcy professional, it is imperative to stay on top of current trends and changes in the law. There are several ways to keep current with the latest legal news and trends. The simplest method is to become familiar with legal news websites and visit them regularly. Many websites and search providers offer e-mail alerts that can provide up-to-the-minute news delivered to your e-mail inbox.

In addition, you can join a bankruptcy listserv, e-mail discussion list, blog or podcast for in-depth discussion. For example, bankruptcy listservs provide access to a network of lawyers across the country that practice bankruptcy law under BAPCPA. One of the most popular features of a listserv membership is the ability to pose bankruptcy questions and get real time responses from their colleagues around the country. Listserv participants enjoy the unparalleled ability to post both the easy and hard questions to some of the best bankruptcy judges, professors and attorneys in the nation. The listserv, which also functions as a virtual community of people doing the same type of work, is a boon for the new practitioner as well as the most sophisticated bankruptcy attorneys.

One of the better listservs is the Bankr-L list by Campus Information Technologies and Educational Services at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. To subscribe, go to: <https://listserv.illinois.edu/wa.cgi?A0=BANKR-L>. Prospective members should also send an e-mail to Professor Robert M. Lawless at rlawless@illinois.edu with a brief description of their professional connection to bankruptcy. A simple, "I am lawyer/judge in Tampa/Clearwater/St Pete" is sufficient and Prof. Lawless will approve your application.

In addition, you can find other listservs at FindLaw and LawGuru.com. FindLaw provides links to many legal listservs and includes instructions on how to subscribe to each listserv. Additionally, FindLaw provides access to the archives of many legal listservs. LawGuru provides an online form that facilitates subscribing and managing subscriptions to more than 600 legal-related listservs. Simply complete the online web form to subscribe to a listserv.