

For the International Municipal Lawyer's Association - IMLA's 5 things to know for May 1st

1. Today we celebrate Law Day. My predecessor as Executive Director of IMLA and its founder Charles S. Rhyne envisioned a day to celebrate the Rule of Law during the Cold War. He convinced then President Eisenhower to proclaim May 1 to be Law Day in the United States and ultimately Mr. Rhyne's idea took hold. Juxtaposed against the Cold War celebrations of military rule in communist countries, today's celebration marks this Country's recognition that our liberties are best protected under a stabilizing Rule of Law. To see and hear Charles Rhyne go to our website where we have a video of a presentation he did back in the late 90's.

<http://imla.org/about-imla/about-mission-history>

http://www.abajournal.com/magazine/article/charlie_rhynes_big_idea

2. The survey results are in and I'm happy to say that most who attended our Seminar gave it high praise. Some comments were particularly gratifying and I want to thank IMLA's fabulous staff for a job well done. One comment raises the question as to why we hold the event over a weekend – there are really two reasons: first, members asked that we do so and second, the room rates in DC are dramatically lower for an event pattern like ours – roughly \$80 per night better. Let me know any suggestions you have for our future programming.
3. In South Carolina an administrative board sent shock waves throughout the hospitality industry when it concluded that where the liquor law required a business serving liquor to be a restaurant that having a microwave and selling hot dogs didn't make a bar a restaurant. Maryland has similar licensing requirements distinguishing between restaurant licenses that allow spirits to be sold and taverns that only allow beer and wine. Other states similarly distinguish between bars and restaurants in their licensing schemes. The South Carolina decision may cause tremors felt beyond its territorial borders.

<http://fortune.com/2018/04/30/south-carolina-bars-shut-down-court-ruling/>

4. Perhaps a sign of the times, but in Central Washington a farmer's decision to convert portions of the farm to a different kind of farming has neighbors astir. The farmer wants to farm solar power and is converting acres of land into a solar farm. Apparently, the neighbors feel some ownership right in continuing to force the farmer to farm what they want rather than what the farmer believes profitable.

https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/solar-panels-on-farmland-in-central-washington-that-stirs-a-fight/?utm_source=referral&utm_medium=mobile-app&utm_campaign=ios

5. In code enforcement news, a brouhaha seems to be developing just outside Kansas City where a half car has sat on a vacant lot for years. The message on the car “Divorced. She got ½”. It’s been there since 1987 and the city council thinks it’s time to move on. The former mayor of the city came up with the idea of the car and the message, but was himself never divorced.

https://www.seattletimes.com/news/owner-of-half-car-in-kansas-argues-that-its-a-monument/?utm_source=referral&utm_medium=mobile-app&utm_campaign=ios

We’re already getting ready for our conference in Houston. When they say everything is big in Texas they aren’t kidding. This will be our biggest conference yet. Register now before the rates go up. Get more from IMLA by joining. Not a member? Contact us. Sign up at www.imla.org . Have a great day and make it an inspirational one.