

# Demand Driving Top Practice Areas in 2010

According to a recent BTI survey, the legal market should expect an increase in corporate litigation spending in 2010. While that is indeed good news, the key to taking advantage of this opportunity is to learn what new market drivers are influencing demand in this economy.

# **Alternative Dispute Resolution**

Research indicates that risk avoidance is a top priority for corporations these days. That trend translates into opportunity for the savvy firm.

As a rule, CEO's believe that managing risk equals managing cost and will ultimately look to their legal counsel for ways to approach, manage and potentially avert litigation as a matter of efficiency. It stands to reason that one of the top practice areas slated for growth in 2010 is Alternative Dispute Resolution.

#### Energy & Environmental Law

Energy and Environmental Law are big sectors. Cap and trade, emissions control and climate change are all in the headlines everyday. Without a doubt, there is a growing consensus that we must clean up and green up our planet. Research shows and market trends confirm that law firms who offer specializations in these areas will benefit in the coming years.

#### Healthcare Law

With a 9% increase in healthcare costs projected for 2010, Healthcare Law ranks as one of the fastest growing practice areas in the nation. Specific to the market in Orlando, demand for experienced attorneys and support staff with a background in Healthcare Law is continuously growing. Northstar Legal is currently working to fill two Associate General Counsel positions within the Healthcare and Pharmaceutical industries and we are anticipating more related work in the coming months. The Nemours Children's Hospital and the UCF Medical School are driving demand up for Healthcare Law expertise in our local market.

The coming year promises to be profitable for all. Northstar, through Polaris, will work to keep you informed about current market trends. At Northstar it is our belief that the key to our prosperity is grounded in our clients' successes.

by Tracey Lovett, CSP

### Monthly Newsletter from Northstar Legal, Inc.

#### A Note From the Editor

It was very exciting to deliver our first edition of the newsletter and I would like to thank all of you who made us feel so welcome with your friendly smiles and warm reception. It was truly a pleasure to meet all of you.

Many thanks go out to the people who have sent me their contributions for inclusion in the newsletter. I am convinced, however, that much more is going on in the legal world that did not reach my mailbox!

Please remember that all relevant information of interest to a wider legal audience is very welcome. It is my hope that with your help Polaris can become an important medium for all those interested in keeping up to date with the happenings of the legal staffing industry. I look forward to hearing from you!

- Aurora Koch admin@northstar-legal.com

#### BULLETIN BOARD

Northstar Legal, Inc. offers our congratulations to Lenita McFeron for a job well done as the 2009-2010 President of the Orlando Chapter of CFALA!

Warm wishes & good luck to the incoming Board of Directors!

If you have any news or announcements that you would like to include in the next newsletter, email us at: admin@northstar-legal.com.

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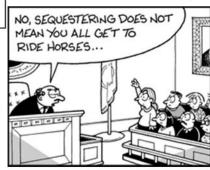
# Ask Northstar:

- In today's market, what is the average salary rate for a legal secretary with 3-5 years experience?

A: There are many factors that go into determining salary range. The level and type of experience of a candidate, longevity in work history, and the size of the firm are all taken into consideration. A legal secretary with consistent job history can expect the salary range of \$36,000 - \$45,000.

Send your questions or comments to: Northstar Legal at:

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