

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE FLORIDA BAR LAW RELATED EDUCATION COMMITTEE OFFERS LEGAL GUIDE FOR NEW ADULTS

TALLAHASSEE - The Florida Bar Standing Committee on Law Related Education announces the distribution of the Legal Guide for New Adults to all 67 school districts in Florida.

The Legal Guide for New Adults is designed to help youth to understand the legal rights and responsibilities they assume when they turn 18 and become adults. High schools throughout the state are encouraged to distribute the Guide to students reaching the age of majority before graduation.

"The Legal Guide is a valuable tool for all seniors regardless of their post school plans," said William J. "Bill" Montford, III, chief executive officer of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents. "Schools should encourage seniors to review the guide and keep it as a resource for future reference."

Many classroom teachers and volunteers have incorporated the Guide into their curricula to help illustrate various legal issues that young adults may face. Andy Ford, president of the Florida Education Association, believes that teachers will be especially pleased to use the Guide. "The Florida Bar's Legal Guide will be a real and practical resource for Florida educators. We encourage teachers to pick the guides up from their principals' office as soon as they arrive," said Ford.

Sharing similar sentiments, Wayne Blanton, executive director of the Florida School Boards Association, commented: "We commend The Florida Bar and the Department of Education for their cooperative effort to put this legal guide in the hands of our seniors. Young people need to be aware of their rights and responsibilities and this guide will help them get there." Included in the Guide are sections on buying an automobile, entering into contracts, obtaining and keeping good credit, the criminal process, drinking and driving information, and landlord and tenant issues.

An electronic version of the Guide is available on the Public Information page of the Florida Bar's Web site, [www.floridabar.org](http://www.floridabar.org) (Click on Consumer Information).

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EDITORS: Please note The Florida Bar is not an association and "Association" is not part of our name. Proper reference is "The Florida Bar." Local bar organizations are properly termed "associations."