



Nashville Bar Journal

Editorial Guidelines

The *Nashville Bar Journal* magazine is the official publication of the Nashville Bar Association. It is a monthly publication and the purpose of the magazine is to provide members of the NBA with information that will increase their knowledge of Tennessee Law, improve their law practices and keep them informed on issues in the legal profession.

Statement of Purpose.

The purpose is to provide articles of general professional or scholarly interest as an enhancement to the practice of law to our members. Articles, primarily written by Tennessee attorneys, judges, and legal professionals, are published in a manner as to provide the most interest and benefit to our readers. We strive to publish articles that express the ideas and views of our members, yet display well-reasoned analysis. While we discourage both commercial writings and clear advocacy pieces, we like to flavor our publications occasionally with controversial articles, and welcome such submissions as well as editorial comment.

Editorial Approval

All printed articles must have the approval of the Nashville Bar Journal Committee of the Nashville Bar Association. The Committee has regular editorial meetings whereby all articles submitted are reviewed and openly discussed before they are accepted for future publication or are declined. Articles submitted are subject to editorial changes. We encourage well-written articles that are serious, yet are not dull, and are of interest to significant segments of the bar.

General Format

The *Nashville Bar Journal* is published in a standard magazine format, 8 ½ x 11 inches, averaging 34 pages per issue. Generally, each issue contains two feature articles, as well as regular columns and departments, such as From the President, Lawyers' Forum, InProfile, and Community Spotlight.

Feature articles are generally subject to the following requirements:

- 1) Articles accepted for publication should be previously unpublished.
- 2) Feature Articles should generally be limited to 1,500 to 2,500 words in length. Regular columns should be 500 to 800 words.
- 3) Citations and footnotes should appear at the end of the article. Commentary footnotes should be limited so as not to become a separate article in themselves
- 4) All articles submitted should be typewritten with standard margins on all sides. Please submit article via e-mail to the NBA Communications Director for submittal to the editorial committee.

5) Printed articles become the property of the Nashville Bar Association and may be reprinted with permission of the NBA.

The following guidelines will be applied to **major articles submitted for publication**, whether unsolicited or solicited, and authors should edit their own work that does not meet the following criteria:

1. Does the content of the article directly affect the practice of law in Nashville?
2. Will the information in the article help NBA members in their daily practices?
3. Is there broad interest to the majority of NBA members?
4. Is the topic of timely importance?
5. Does the author(s) of the article have the necessary expertise to write about the subject in question, or has he or she conducted sufficient research to do so? All authors seeking to publish their work in the Nashville Bar Journal must be in good standing within their legal community. The Nashville Bar Journal reserves the right to refuse to publish articles that may harm the reputation of the Nashville Bar Association, because of the content of the article or the reputation of the author in the community.
6. Is the article of an appropriate length to fully (but not excessively) cover the subject? If determined by the editor to be too long, can it be shortened? If determined to be too brief, can it be expanded?
7. Is the subject matter new material and not something already covered in the *Nashville Bar Journal* within the last year?
8. Does the author present ideas in a balanced manner rather than presenting one side of an issue? If not, has the opposing viewpoint also been presented alongside the main feature?
9. Does the article contain information not already covered in another publication, such as in a local daily, weekly or monthly?

Letters to the Editor

At the discretion of the editors, opinion pieces may be published in the *Nashville Bar Association* under "Letters." Opinion pieces may address any topic of law or legal practice, but may not contain language constituting an attack upon an individual, group or organization, and may not promote individual products, services or political candidates.

Exceptions

There are occasional cases where established guidelines may be waived and material need not satisfy all of the guidelines set forth above. Examples include: the point-counterpoint feature, human-interest articles about persons in the legal community; humorous or anecdotal articles; historic pieces; and, creative writing. Such submissions are evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the editors, who retain responsibility for story evaluation.