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Big Law Jargon: A Primer

By Josh Block - Big Law Business June 29, 2017





Like the entertainment industry and the trade magazine Variety, with its **slanguage**, the legal media and business of law have their own language. It's a language that can be confusing to outsiders, and even to law students and lawyers who have never practiced at a large firm. In our latest video essay, Big Law Business decodes the special language of big law with a short paragraph that we wrote to utilize 14 terms with special meanings. The paragraph is merely an example, any resemblance to actual law firms, or actual events is purely coincidental.

After the tie-up between the magic circle and Am Law 100 firms was announced, the headhunters contacted the firm's rainmakers with big books of business. Some lateraled, one started a boutique, and a white shoe firm looked like it could be no more. They could only make offers to half of their summers. The pressures facing the firm ranged from clients moving to AFAs, to a compensation system that went from lockstep to black-box. Would they be the next Dewey?

Do you have a story you'd like to share with Big Law Business about jargon? A term you wish we'd included, like Swiss verein? Drop us a line at **BigLawBusiness@bna.com** or tweet at us at **@BigLawBiz**.

Our previous video essay on a trend in law firm partner promotions.



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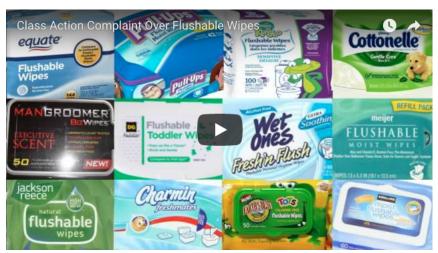
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