

The National Jurist

Take charge of your career

Submitted by [Michelle](#) on Mon, 11/22/2010 - 9:57am

A new book by Deborah Epstein Henry hones in on key issues for success as an employer in the legal industry. "Law & Reorder: Legal Industry Solutions for Restructure, Retention, Promotion & Work/Life Balance" encourages young lawyers to take charge of their careers early on.

Written in two parts — the first part for legal employers, and the second for law students and lawyers — Epstein Henry stresses how it's important for young lawyers to be their own entrepreneur. This includes understanding the new legal world of productivity, leadership and networking to name a few.

"It's not enough to wait for a senior lawyer to show you the way," said Epstein Henry, president of Flex-Time Lawyers LLC, a national consulting firm she founded in the late 1990s, advising the legal profession on new models of legal practice and work/life balance. "[You have] to be creative and show initiative."

Epstein Henry, a former practicing litigator and mother of three, now consults and speaks before audiences including law students, law firms and student groups.

"One of the mistakes I see is that [students] are concerned with developing their own skills, but it's important to have knowledge of the legal employer structure," she said. "This is a guidebook and manual that people can use so that they can use it as a script to navigate their way."

An excerpt from the book will run in the January issue of The National Jurist.

By Michelle Weyenberg, managing editor for The National Jurist and preLaw magazines.