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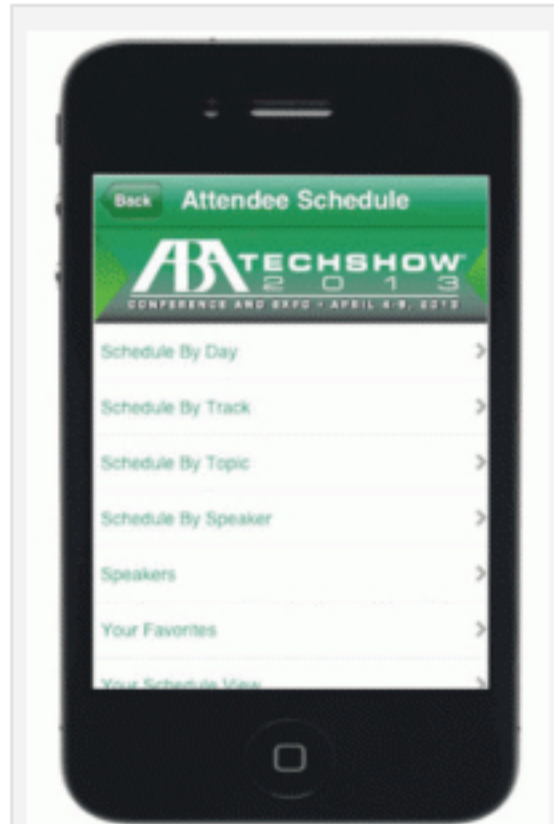
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ABA Techshow 2013: A mobile experience

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Every year in early spring, legal technology enthusiasts from across the United States and Canada converge upon the Chicago Hilton to attend the American Bar Association's legal technology conference, ABA Techshow.

For those unfamiliar with this conference, it's sponsored the ABA's Law Practice Management Section and its goal is "to bring lawyers and technology together." It does this by presenting multiple and varied technology tracks. This year there was a strong focus on social media, cloud computing, the paperless office, and there was even a track devoted to lawyers who use Macs in their law firms.

But what really stood out was the emphasis on the mobile lawyer, which wasn't exactly surprising, since lawyers have always been quick to embrace mobile tools, beginning with PDAs, then BlackBerrys and smartphones, and now tablets.

So, of course, in keeping with this theme, there was an ABA Techshow mobile conference app. The handy app, available for iOS and Android devices, was used by many conference-goers and included the full schedule, a list of exhibitors, and more.

And, because of the popularity of mobile devices with lawyers, there was an entire track devoted to tablets and smartphones in addition to separate, platform-specific tracks — one focused on iOS devices and the other on Androids. These sessions were some of the most popular and well-attended, featuring many well-known experts and law bloggers, including attorneys Mark Metzger, Jeff Richardson, Ben Stevens and Jeffrey Taylor, among others.

But Techshow isn't just about the programming. For many attendees, another favorite highlight is exploring the Expo Hall and learning about new legal technologies. And when it came to mobile technologies, there were a vast array of new mobile tools to discover this year.

To begin with, for those seeking a mobile billing solution in the cloud, there were two great options on display at Techshow. First, if your firm already uses a premise-based billing software, there's iTimekeep (itimekeep.com), a mobile app compatible with iOS and Android devices, which acts as a gateway between your mobile device and your firm's native billing system. Using iTimekeep, you can easily bill on the go using just your mobile device, and as you do, all data entered will be transferred via the cloud to your firm's billing database.

Next, if your firm is ready to abandon premise-based software and move all of its timekeeping functions to the cloud, consider newcomer Attorney Timekeeper (attorneytimekeeper.com). This cloud-based app works on both iOS and Android devices as well as both Macs and PCs. The app includes built-in features intended to set it apart from the other timekeeping apps already available, including: 1) a stored list of clients and matters recently time-captured, which auto-populates the most recently entered information when you enter a client's name; 2) automatic capture of time spent on phone calls using your cellular or smart phone; and 3) a feature that enables you to set timekeeping objectives and to compete against other attorneys in your firm. This app costs \$49.95 per user per month.

Next, if you're ready to manage your entire practice in the cloud, there's the mobile app just released by MyCase (mycase.com), the company by which I'm employed. At Techshow, MyCase debuted the first of its kind mobile law practice management app that includes a portal designed specifically for legal consumers, so your clients can access information and documents related to their case and securely communicate with you using the app.

In addition to the client portal, there is the lawyer-facing app which allows lawyers to access matters, documents, messages, and contacts, in addition to inputting data into MyCase, including calendaring, timekeeping, and billing. So using just your iPhone or iPad you can run your practice and bill your time no matter where you are. The app is free and the cost to use MyCase is just \$39 per lawyer per month and \$29 per staff member per month.

Moving on — if you're in the market for mobile apps to assist with the litigation process, then you're in luck. There were a number of interesting offerings from ABA Techshow exhibitors. First, to assist with depositions, there's the newly released eDepoze app (edepoze.com), an iPad app designed to reduce or eliminate paper documents at depositions. Using eDepoze and your iPad, you can access and utilize all of the digital documents that you've uploaded into the program, thus simplifying and streamlining the deposition process. The app itself is free and the cost to utilize eDepoze in a deposition varies and depends on the price set by the court reporting company through which you purchase the app.

Lit Software (litsoftware.com), a company that was one of the first to introduce litigation apps for the iPad, was also exhibiting at Techshow. Lit Software offers two different iPad apps, TrialPad and TranscriptPad. TrialPad is a trial presentation app, which was the first of its kind when released in 2010. The company has made constant improvements to the app with the end result being that it is arguably one of the best when it comes to trial presentation apps. Their other offering, TranscriptPad, allows you to read, highlight, and share deposition and trial transcripts using just your iPad. TrialPad costs \$89.99 and TranscriptPad costs \$49.99.

Of course, mobile solutions can't be discussed without mentioning the apps offered by both Thomson Reuters and LexisNexis. Both companies have invested significant resources into their mobile app development and their efforts are impressive.

First, Thomson Reuters offers an array of mobile apps. There's the WestlawNext mobile app, which, if you are a WestlawNext subscriber, makes it easy for you to conduct legal research on the go. There are also a variety of e-books available for purchase, including Black's Law Dictionary and hundreds of different West publications. Also available is a CLE app that allows lawyers to virtually attend West LegalEdCenter CLEs. And, there's My Legal Project, an app which costs \$1.99, designed to help law firm associates keep track of the requirements of each of their legal research assignments.



Like Thomson Reuters, LexisNexis also has a robust offering of mobile apps. Of course there's LexisNexis' mobile legal research app, available to LexisNexis subscribers. And LexisNexis offers over 1,000 e-books, available for purchase and download at their online e-book store.

Another app, available for both iOS and Android devices, is CourtLink. This app allows CourtLink subscribers to set up alerts and track court docket activity and review recent activity, all from your mobile device. Finally, there is an app for iPhones and Android devices available for law students called LexisNexis Law School Q&A series. It's an interactive app designed to assist students in studying for their exams.

So there you have it: a summary of some of the latest and greatest mobile technologies for lawyers offered at this year's ABA Techshow. And keep in mind this was just a sampling of the vast assortment of information and resources available at this conference. But the only way to experience everything offered at Techshow is for you to experience it yourself. So if you'd like to explore and learn about the newest legal technology offerings, make sure to attend ABA Techshow in 2014. It will be well worth the trip to Chicago!

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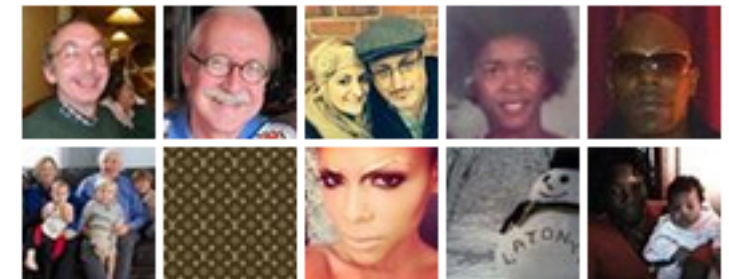
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