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## **Massachusetts Bar Association Resolutions on Mandatory Minimums, ICE Detentions Adopted Nationally**

***Resolutions set American Bar Association policy, will aid other states' efforts***

The American Bar Association (ABA) House of Delegates — the policymaking body of the national bar association — wrapped up its session Tuesday, Aug. 15, at the 2017 ABA Annual Meeting in New York City, where members from around the country debated and voted on a wide range of policy issues. During the meeting, the ABA's House of Delegates voted to adopt three Massachusetts Bar Association (MBA)-submitted resolutions with national implications:

- Resolution 10B (Abolish mandatory minimums)
- Resolution 10C (Making courthouses part of the no arrest zone for ICE), and
- Resolution 10D (Keeping the Office of Global Criminal Justice)

The resolutions were submitted by MBA President Jeffrey N. Catalano and presented at the ABA meeting by several MBA members, including past MBA presidents. The ABA House of Delegates passed each resolution unanimously.

"We are grateful the ABA has adopted these important resolutions, which set policy on the national level for the legal community and provide the necessary resources for advocates throughout the states to pursue similar legislation with their own lawmakers," said Martin W. Healy, chief legal counsel for the Massachusetts Bar Association. "The Massachusetts Bar Association continues to embrace our role as a leader on these critical legal and policy issues, which we hope will modernize criminal justice policy throughout the country."

Additional details on the approved, MBA-sponsored resolutions are available here:

- 10B (ABA opposes the imposition of a mandatory minimum sentence in any criminal case): [https://www.americanbar.org/news/reporter\\_resources/annual-meeting-2017/house-of-delegates-resolutions/10b.html](https://www.americanbar.org/news/reporter_resources/annual-meeting-2017/house-of-delegates-resolutions/10b.html).
- 10C (ABA urges Congress to amend Section 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to expand and codify Department of Homeland Security guidelines regarding immigration enforcement): [https://www.americanbar.org/news/reporter\\_resources/annual-meeting-2017/house-of-delegates-resolutions/10c.html](https://www.americanbar.org/news/reporter_resources/annual-meeting-2017/house-of-delegates-resolutions/10c.html).
- 10D (ABA urges Congress and State Department to ensure criminal accountability for mass atrocities resides in an office mandated to the pursuit of global criminal justice):

[https://www.americanbar.org/news/reporter\\_resources/annual-meeting-2017/house-of-delegates-resolutions/10d.html](https://www.americanbar.org/news/reporter_resources/annual-meeting-2017/house-of-delegates-resolutions/10d.html).

The full list of resolutions considered by the ABA House of Delegates on Aug. 14-15 can be found on the ABA's website: [https://www.americanbar.org/news/reporter\\_resources/annual-meeting-2017/house-of-delegates-resolutions.html](https://www.americanbar.org/news/reporter_resources/annual-meeting-2017/house-of-delegates-resolutions.html)

*Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.*

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