

The Azara Group

Empowering Leaders. Influencing Change.



Message from the CEO:

In our monthly newsletters, we share our latest articles and updates. We want you to take charge of your future by giving you tools to become a stronger leader. Our goal is to help you flourish and share what makes people thrive!

*Regards,
Fatimah Gilliam*

IN THIS ISSUE

[Beware of the Fine Print – Forced Arbitration Clauses in Employment Contracts](#)

[Building A Winning Team Culture – Lessons in Sports & Corporate America](#)

[Thought Leader Spotlight](#)

...and much more!

LATEST ARTICLES

Beware of the Fine Print – Forced Arbitration in Employment Contracts



Lurking in various agreements are forced arbitration clauses. Often, they are overlooked, but they impact your rights with your employer – especially if there is ever a dispute.

These clauses can prevent you from bringing a

THOUGHT LEADER SPOTLIGHT



Meet [Ida Liu](#), Managing Director, New York Global Markets Manager at Citi Private Bank.

After starting her career as an investment banker and then moving into the fashion industry, Ida has carved out an interesting career straddling both worlds as a banker serving high net worth clients in fashion, media, and entertainment.

Click [here](#) to read Ida's insights

lawsuit against your employer in a court of law or from having a jury trial. Instead, they subject you to a process that favors your employer and the company.

This article will help you better understand the forced arbitration clauses that could be hiding in your next employment contract, and how to handle them.

[Read the full article here...](#)

Building A Winning Team – Lessons in Sports & Corporate America



In sports, commentators and analysts often talk about the necessity of team chemistry and players “being on the same page” in order to win. Teams with long and sustained success are characterized by their “winning culture” that establishes expectations and chemistry. What comprises this culture? How do these successful coaches build it?

As much as it applies in the sports world, building a distinct team culture is part of any successful business strategy. Team chemistry remains important not only to wins and losses on the court or field, but also to financial success and career growth in the office.

How do we define a team culture? How can a leader foster these elements within a diverse group of individuals?

This article delves into this topic to guide coaches and business leaders in building a “winning culture” that promises sustained success.

[Read the full article here...](#)

about leadership, being an influencer, and her career.

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

NEW YORK CITY BAR



Fatimah Gilliam, The Azara Group's Founder & CEO will be speaking in July as one of the faculty of the New York City Bar's newly launched "[Associate Leadership Institute](#)," a five-part series of high-level development training for mid-level and senior associates at premier law firms.

Fatimah will be speaking about career management and transitioning, and negotiation skills.

Click [here](#) to read the recent Bloomberg article on this innovative program.

MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

Black Journal
America's Leading African-American Business and Career Magazine

COMPANY UPDATES



Speaking Appearance

In July, both Fatimah Gilliam and Amina Hassan spoke at various events. They will continue to speak at events in the coming months.

Learn more about having us speak at your event or organization [here](#).



Our Welcome Video

Check out our company video.

Watch our video [here](#).

Learn more about The Azara Group [here](#).



In this month's July 2017 issue of the [Black EOJ Journal](#), several articles written by The Azara Group were published in the print, online, and digital versions.

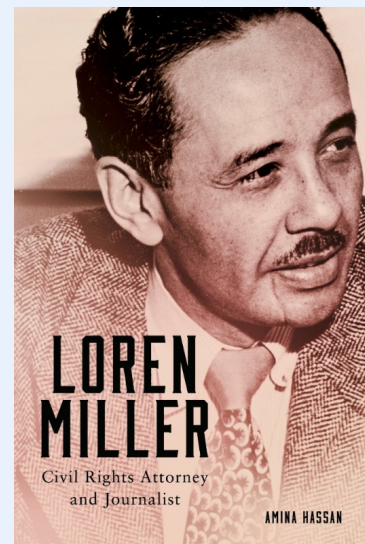
Click [here](#) to read our **interview with Google's Nelson Boyce**.

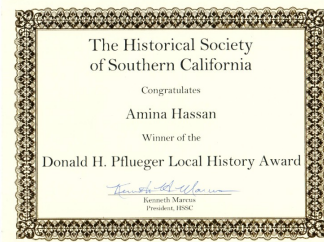
Click [here](#) to read our **article on cell phone etiquette in the workplace**.

The journal hit newsstands in mid-July, and is also available online.

This magazine is available at many diversity conferences across the country, at Barnes & Noble, and online – reaching upwards of 1.6 million readers.

BOOK UPDATES – AWARDS & REVIEWS





Last year, Amina Hassan's book on the life of civil rights attorney Loren Miller was published. She is our company researcher and consultant.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

Order it today!

To see Amina's new website about her book, click [here](#).

This book is the 2016 winner of **The Donald H. Pflueger Local History Award** by the Historical Society of Southern California. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Lonnie G. Bunch III, the Founding Director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African-American History and Culture (NMAAHC), where Amina's biography is available in the bookstore, said:

"I just love the Loren Miller book!"

Click [here](#) to read a review in the Library Journal, which calls this book:

"A recommended work that adds to the corpus of civil rights and offers a rich portrait of a central figure in the related struggle."

Click [here](#) to read a review in The Boulé Journal, which says:

"Amina Hassan's book covers Loren Miller's extraordinary life – his friendship with Langston Hughes – his travels to the Soviet Union – and his U.S. Supreme Court victories."

Click [here](#) to read a review in the Western Historical Quarterly Review, where Lorn S. Foster (Professor of Politics at Pomona College) said:

"Amina Hassan presents us with an excellent...history of the West in her biography of Loren Miller...[and] reveals Miller as a hidden jewel...and an unsung hero of the national Civil Rights movement."

Click [here](#) to read a review in the Southern California Quarterly, where Emily Lutenski (Professor of American Studies at Saint Louis University) said:

"Hassan describes Miller's contributions to worlds as seemingly disparate as the Harlem Renaissance and the United States Supreme Court, and insists upon Miller's importance for scholars of civil rights, black politics and letters, and Los Angeles."



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