

# Allstate Joins In-House Furor Over Associate Raises

Bank of America's top lawyer isn't the only in-house attorney expressing displeasure with associate salary raises announced recently by BigLaw firms and boutiques, reports Sara Randazzo of *The Wall Street Journal*. She says other general counsel are sending letters to their outside law firms, warning them of the potential for relationship problems if they join in the pay hikes.

**The report** quotes a letter Allstate Corp.'s general counsel, Susan Lees, sent to some law firms, challenging the logic of paying first-year associates \$180,000.

"[0]ne must question the merits of a business model that compensates fresh law school graduates, who are devoid of any meaningful lawyering experience, with a salary greater than that of a seasoned in-house corporate attorney with a decade or more of experience counseling senior leaders in our organization," states Ms. Lees's letter, which was reviewed by Law Blog.

**[Read the article.](#)**