The Web sites listed here offer practical advice, subject expertise, and creative ways to think about new opportunities as you plan for retirement.

Mareth Wilson

Getting Started

American Association of Retired Persons
www.aarp.org
This is a well-organized and attractive Web site, and a place to begin your research. From the home page you can link through to major content sections titled Learning and Technology; Health; Family, Home and Legal; Money and Work; and Travel. Special mention goes to AARP’s page of Internet sources—www.aarp.org/internetresources/
AARP Local Chapters—www.aarp.org/states/ca

Giving Back

Reinventing Aging
www.hsph.harvard.edu/chc/reinventingaging
This is the site of the Harvard School of Public Health initiative to “motivate Boomers and retirees to engage in community service.” Click “volunteer” for a long list of possibilities. N.B. the listing for www.volunteermatch.org. At this site you can put in your zip code, select how many miles you are willing to drive, and find volunteer opportunities in your local community.

BASF’s Volunteer Legal Services Program (VLSP)
www.sfbar.org/vlsp
One of the largest providers of legal services in San Francisco, VLSP annually serves thousands of low-income individuals or community-based organizations in desperate need of legal help. The award-winning legal services program changes lives by using a holistic approach that offers social services as well as legal services, and VLSP has provided this help with the assistance of volunteer attorneys and other professionals throughout the Bay Area for thirty years.

Pro Bono Net
www.probono.net/BayArea
Pro Bono Net is a nonprofit of 35,000 registered users whose mission is to increase access to justice through innovative uses of technology and increased volunteer lawyer participation. VLSP administers and hosts the Bay Area portion of Pro Bono Net. Probono.net/BayArea is your online gateway to pro bono legal services opportunities throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.
If you retire from a large firm, it likely has an organized, orderly method for taking over your workload. Indeed, with mandatory retirement policies, you may not have a choice.

But retiring from a small or solo practice is a different matter entirely. There are ethical considerations involved in the sale or closure of your practice. Peter Geraghty, director of ABA EthicSearch, highlighted some of the rules and guidelines in a recent American Bar Association article, “Winding Down and Moving On.” These include ABA Model Rule 1.17 Sale of a Law Practice. Since its adoption in 1990, nearly all the states, including California, have adopted a similar model rule. Several states, including Connecticut, Kansas, and the District of Columbia, have ethics opinions on the topic.

There are also numerous books available on how to wind down your practice properly. According to Geraghty, client confidences and the proper handling of client files are among the main concerns. Geraghty’s article can be found at www.abanet.org/media/youraba/200611/article11.html.