

## Texas Lawyers' Assistance Program

Is the practice  
of law a  
**hazardous  
profession?**



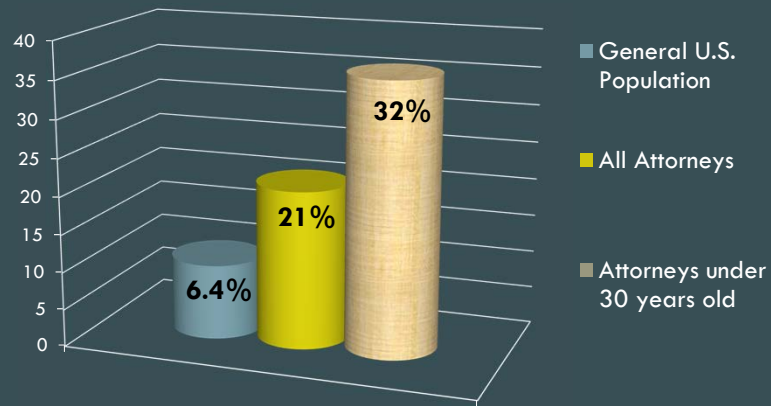
## An Epidemic in the Legal Profession

- Substance Abuse
  - Alcoholism
  - Prescription drug abuse
- Mental Illness
  - Depression
  - Anxiety
- Suicide
- Cognitive Impairment

## ABA/Hazelden-Betty Ford Research Project

- “Current Rates of Substance Use, Depression and Anxiety within the Legal Profession”
  - Most recent since 1990
  - Most comprehensive study ever
  - Published in Feb. 2016 Journal of Addiction Medicine
- 12,825 employed lawyers from 19 states

## ABA/Hazelden-Betty Ford Research Project



"Problematic Drinking" = hazardous, possible dependence

## The Problem with Lawyers...

- Positive scores for "problematic drinking" when only asked about amount and frequency:
  - 36.4% lawyers
  - 15% physicians

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Title search: Texas Lawyers' Assistance Program

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[2016 Advanced Texas Administrative Law eConference](#)

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11<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Texas Administrative Law Seminar session  
"Impaired Attorneys and the Texas Lawyers' Assistance Program"