

Are Attorneys Better Off Contacting Law Firms Directly or Using Legal Recruiters in Their Search for a New Law Firm Job?

Question: *I just passed the NY bar exam, have some limited legal experience and securities qualifications, but haven't had the luxury of a summer associate job with a major law firm. Would I be better off knocking on their doors one by one, or should I submit my resume to recruiters that work exclusively online? I know you have written that unless we have two years of experience with major firms, recruiters are not interested in looking at our resumes. Does that include online recruiters?*

Answer: This is a tough question for me because I really don't know that much about the online recruiters. However, I doubt that whether the recruiter is "virtual" or "live" makes much of a difference - [both are trying to find lawyers who satisfy the requirements of client law firms](#), and [that's why associates who haven't worked for at least two years generally don't make the cut](#).

One word of caution: Please know where your resume is going when you work with a faceless, nameless recruiter. I cannot tell you how many resumes I receive each week that have absolutely nothing to do with my searches or clients -or even the legal community. [I believe you are best served by networking, knocking on doors and keeping in constant contact with your law school career services office](#). I hope this advice helps.

Summary: *This is a tough question for me because I really don't know that much about the online recruiters. However, here is what I think.*

See the following articles for more information:

[Why You Should Never Use a Legal Recruiter](#)

[Working with a Legal Recruiter](#)

[What Should I Do If the Recruiter I'm Working with Is Not Following Up with Firms They Have Submitted Me to?](#)

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