Chicago Lawyers' Committee's 2013 fall favorites!

Building Community "Link by Link"
On Thursday, October 17, The Law Project paid tribute to its dedicated clients and volunteer attorneys at its newest annual fundraiser, "Link by Link." The event featured a variety of locally made goods from former TLP clients, offering guests a unique opportunity to purchase one-of-a-kind items while supporting the work of social entrepreneurs. The Law Project provides high-quality, pro bono transactional legal counsel to nonprofit organizations and small businesses. Working in collaboration with private bar attorneys, TLP provides the legal tools necessary for our clients to sustain and grow their organizations so that they may continue in their efforts to build strong communities. Many thanks to our generous host Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher &
Courtroom Kudos

The Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law congratulates volunteer attorney Michael Zuckerman on the recognition accorded him by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois for exemplary pro bono work in representing a plaintiff in a religious discrimination suit for the Committee's Settlement Assistance Program.

Order Dated: 10/21/13
By: Honorable Jeffrey Cole

"The court wishes to express its deepest thanks to Michael Zuckerman of Jones Day for his outstanding and selfless efforts on behalf of the plaintiff. For many reasons, this was a difficult representation for Mr. Zuckerman but he handled it with great aplomb and professionalism. The skill and sensitivity with which he represented the plaintiff made one proud to be a lawyer."

Project News

Employment Opportunity Project: CLC teams up with Interfaith Worker Justice to launch

Upcoming Events

FREE CLE: Compliance for Nonprofit Organizations

REGISTER>>

*Earn 2.0 FREE CLE credits! Including 0.5 Ethics*

Are you new to nonprofit board service? Do you help nonprofit founders create charities and apply for tax exemption, but are unable to advise them about compliance and operations? Would you like to launch a practice advising charitable organizations? Attend this FREE session to receive an introduction to the issues involved with operating a nonprofit, charitable organization, including:

- the role of the board of directors,
- fiduciary responsibilities of individual directors,
- record keeping,
- annual reporting,
- compliance with federal and state laws, and
- unrelated business taxable income
Committee for Civil Rights, in partnership with Interfaith Worker Justice, will host a weekly wage theft clinic beginning November 4th and continuing through mid-December, 2013. Volunteer law students and attorneys will provide advice and help to workers facing problems with their wages: not being paid for work, not being paid the minimum wage, not being paid overtime wages, being improperly classified as an independent contractor, being improperly classified as a worker exempt from the overtime laws, being denied a last paycheck, being denied accrued vacation, and facing retaliation for raising pay claims. The clinic will also advise on other issues, from workplace injuries to sexual harassment to immigration problems, and refer individuals to appropriate government agencies and lawyers. The clinic will take place on Mondays from 5pm-8pm at the Chicago Lawyers' Committee offices (100 N. LaSalle, Suite 600). Interested in volunteering with CLC's wage theft clinic? Contact Paul Strauss at PStrauss@clccrul.org (bilingual volunteers needed!)

**Educational Equity Project**: CLC continues to fight for equal justice in Chicago Public Schools and pave the way for education reform

**Chicago Lawyers' Committee 101 REGISTER>>**
Meet the faces behind the Chicago Lawyers' Committee and learn how you can get involved at this midday roundtable featuring brief presentations by CLC project directors, staff attorneys and volunteers.
When: Tuesday, January 21, 12pm-1:30pm
Where: Mayer Brown

**Answer the Call to Justice and Equality!**
Want to network with other like-minded young professionals while tackling today's growing and complex civil rights issues? Join Chicago Lawyers' Committee's Young Professional Advisory Council! For more information, contact YPAC President Laura Kleinman at lkleinman@robinsoncurley.com.
CLC Educational Equity Fellow and Attorney Eve Rips shared her vision for closing the justice gap in Chicago schools, suggesting five ways in which democratic engagement could be fostered by CPS. Click here to read Eve's full "Plan for Chicago" submission. CLC continues to monitor the transition of students displaced by the school closings and serve as a trusted source of information on legal rights and options for affected students and parents through the Independent School Monitoring Project, a joint effort with Loyola University-Chicago’s Education Law and Policy Institute. As part of the project, about 60 volunteers surveyed parents about their experience with the school transition during the first week back to school. As the school year goes on, the monitoring will continue. "Keeping an eye on what is happening in the welcoming schools is imperative. The schools that closed as well as the welcoming ones are mostly in poor neighborhoods. They are often the schools that experience the most problems, and parents don’t always know their rights," Eve explained in a recent Catalyst article. Interested in learning more about CLC's Educational Equity Project or volunteering with the Independent School Monitoring Project? Contact Staff Attorney Jessica Schneider at jschneider@clccrul.org.

**Fair Housing Project:** CLC's Fair Housing Project

Laura Kleinman, Robinson Curley & Clayton

"YPAC gives all types of young professionals the chance to work alongside CLC staff and other civil rights advocates to build a more equitable Chicagoland. Participating in CLC's events, outreach efforts, and programming is truly inspirational, and I can't think of a better way to supplement my practice than by being involved with YPAC."

Prashant Kolluri,
investigate and challenge housing discrimination and promote fair and inclusive communities

Last month the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced Chicago Lawyers’ Committee as one of its 2014 Private Enforcement Initiative grantees. Support from HUD will enable CLC to continue its charge to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing, to investigate and represent individuals faced with housing discrimination and to educate the public on their rights and options when faced with barriers to fair housing. CLC’s Fair Housing staff can be seen at outreach events throughout Chicago - most recently CLC participated in the International Human Relations Council's Unity Picnic at Marquette Park and the Department of Veteran's Affairs' Legal Resource Fair. CLC also presented on fair housing rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act to clients at Casa Central and to staff at La Casa Norte in West Town. Interested in learning more about the Fair Housing Project and how you can get involved? Contact Fair Housing Project Director Betsy Shuman-Moore at BShuman-Moore@clccrul.org.

“...I entered law school knowing that I wanted to assist those in my community whose civil rights had been violated. CLC gives me the opportunity to meet members of the Chicagoland community who need an advocate to protect their rights, and at the same time, combat the problems associated with urban poverty and discrimination.”

Voting Rights Project: CLC’s Staff Attorney and voting rights thought leader Marissa Liebling
challenges at NAACP's recent Illinois State Conference
On Saturday, October 12, CLC staff attorney Marissa Liebling spoke on "The current landscape of voting rights: from restrictions to reform." The presentation offered a brief overview of today's threats to the Voting Rights Act and efforts being made to preserve and expand the right to vote for all citizens. CLC's Voting Rights Project continues to advise the State on the rollout of the Online Voter Registration Bill, to lead research and advocacy efforts on local election reform, and to partner with community-based organizations and the national Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights to educate and ensure fair access to the polls through its Election Protection efforts. Interested in learning more about the Voting Rights Project? Contact CLC Staff Attorney Marissa Liebling at mliebling@clccrul.org

Initiative for Northwest Indiana: INWIN Staff
Attorney and community development expert Renee Hatcher serves as a panelist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago's recent conference on microbusiness
aggressively working toward greater economic prosperity, Renee helped lead a discussion on efforts being made to help strengthen the local business ecosystem throughout the Midwest. The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago partnered with the Association for Enterprise Opportunity, Accion Chicago, the Women’s Business Development Center, and the State of Illinois Small Business Development Center to host the one-day conference. Want to learn more about CLC’s economic development efforts in Northwest Indiana? Contact INWIN Staff Attorney Renee Hatcher at rhatcher@clccrul.org to learn more!

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