As August has brought cool summer breezes, our civil rights work continues to heat up!

CLC Hosts 44th Annual Meeting

On Thursday, July 11, 2013, the Chicago Lawyers' Committee hosted its 44th Annual Meeting at the Palmer House Hilton. The afternoon featured keynote speaker and civil rights trailblazer Dr. Mary Frances Berry who spoke on the urgent need for action in what she called "terrible times" in our nation's civil rights history. The event honored some of Chicago's most dedicated and
passionate civil rights activists, and challenged us to step up to the growing number of complex social justice issues in our communities. While accepting her plaque for the 2013 Edwin A. Rothschild Award for Lifetime Achievement in Civil Rights, Fay Clayton revealed to the crowd, "I'm addicted to civil rights." We're right there with you, Fay! As we approach the 45th anniversary of CLC's founding, we are ready to answer Dr. Berry's call to action and push Chicago forward in its path toward justice.

Click **HERE** to view more photos from CLC's 44th Annual Meeting

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IL Passes Online Voter Registration Bill
With today's mounting civil rights challenges, and the Supreme Court's recent blow to voters in *Shelby County v Holder*, we're more committed than ever to eliminate barriers to the polls and increase accessibility for all voters in Illinois. On Saturday, July 27, 2013, Governor Quinn signed HB2418, bringing online voter registration to Illinois. Illinois voters will now experience easier, more convenient voter registration. CLC Project Leader Marissa Liebling (pictured far right) was there and received a signing pen from the Governor. The law also made improvements in other areas including grace period registration, provisional ballot counting, and early voting on public college campuses. The Voting Rights Project has joined with other organizations to issue key recommendations that will ensure that the new system is user-friendly, informative, and accessible to all communities. Visit www.clccrul.org/News to read the full letter of recommendations. Passionate about voting rights and advocacy? Become a volunteer with the Voting Rights Project! For more information, contact Marissa Liebling at mliebling@clccrul.org.

*Click HERE to see more photos from the bill signing*
CLC and TLP Host Community Bus Tour

On Wednesday, July 24, The Law Project and the Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights hosted a community bus tour of several exciting community development initiatives taking place throughout Chicago. The tour included visits to Growing Home, a community-based urban farming initiative; Urban Juncture, a real estate developer in Bronzeville; Bronzeville Cookin', a culinary incubator for restaurants featuring African cuisine; and the Resurrection Project, a community-based organization in Pilsen dedicated to economic development, affordable housing and community empowerment. The Law Project continues to provide nonprofits and small businesses throughout Chicago with the legal counsel they need to increase their capacity to meet the complex and vital needs of the communities they serve. Interested
CLC Launches the Independent School Monitoring Program

Following the recent CPS school closures, the Chicago Lawyers' Committee and the Education Law and Policy Institute at Loyola University are launching a volunteer program designed to monitor schools welcoming students displaced from closing schools. The Independent School Monitoring Project is intended to assist in the orderly transition of children to new schools and ensure that their right to a high quality education is preserved during that process. Volunteers will be stationed in front of welcoming schools on Monday, August 26 and Tuesday, August 27, talking directly with parents and students about their experiences at the new school. Volunteers will not provide legal advice, but will be given know your rights materials to hand out and will be able to provide legal referrals as needed. For more information on how you can get involved, please contact Civil Rights Fellow Eve Rips at erips@clccrul.org or by phone at 312.630.9744 x 240.

In the News

The Chicago Lawyers' Committee continues to challenge injustice and inequalities facing Chicagoans through its aggressive outreach and advocacy efforts. Our work representing Hispanic students excluded from the Elgin School District's gifted program was covered by Catalyst Chicago; our efforts to combat harsh school discipline in Chicago Public Schools and local charter schools was spotlighted by Huffington Post, Ed Weekly, DNainfo.com, and Telemundo; and our Voting Rights Project Leader, a
Young Professionals' Advisory Council Hosts Mix and Mingle at Willis Tower

More than 40 young attorneys gathered on the 67th floor of Willis Tower this past July to pledge their commitment to civil rights and social justice issues, and launch the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee into a new era of collective action and advocacy efforts. The networking event served as the relaunch of the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee's Young Professionals' Advisory Council (YPAC), attracting some of
Chicago Lawyers' Committee's End-of-Summer Roundup

Young Professionals' Advisory Council will serve as an important part of Chicago Lawyers’ Committee charge to increase the commitment and involvement of the private bar in tacking today's civil rights challenges. Stay tuned for details on the next YPAC event, Breakfast of Champions, taking place Tuesday, September 17th at McGuireWoods.

Click HERE to view photos from YPAC's recent mix and mingle at The Metropolitan Club

CLC Says Farewell to Summer Interns

This summer the Chicago Lawyers' Committee hosted 17 interns at its downtown office - nearly doubling the strength of the staff! Interns worked in the Educational Equity Project, representing students in expulsion hearings; assisted the Incarceration Project in launching its first expungement clinic; helped coordinate a city-wide bus tour of community development sites featuring nonprofit clients with The Law Project; assisted with the Voting Rights Project's first statewide hearing on voting rights; and produced a report on the state of Fair Housing in Chicago. Interns also enjoyed several outings throughout the summer, including the much anticipated annual intern bowling outing for naming rights of a...
Chicago Lawyers' Committee's End-of-Summer Roundup

and find out this year's winner!

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