



**ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM
ANNUAL REPORT 2012**

Commission Chair Gordon B. Nash



On behalf of the Commissioners and our staff, I am pleased to submit the 2012 Annual Report of the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism to the Justices of the Court, to the members of the bar, and to the people of the State of Illinois. The Commission focused on all of its duties as delineated in Supreme Court Rule 799. Our efforts and progress in meeting these goals are explained in this report.

Because my term as Chair ended in December 2012, I want to also take this opportunity to say what a privilege it has been to serve as Chair of this Commission. I have many people to thank. To our Commissioners, your dedicated service and good judgment was always appreciated. Justice Thomas, our liaison with the Court, provided support and guidance for the Commission's work that was invaluable. The Commission is fortunate to have a dedicated staff working tirelessly to implement our mission. Finally, legal organizations and lawyers throughout the state vigorously endorsed our mission and did heavy lifting as we sought to have an impact in the legal communities throughout the state.

I am proud of the progress we are making, especially with the innovative statewide Lawyer-to-Lawyer Mentoring Program and our technology initiatives. The work of the Commission to promote the core values of our profession is increasingly important in the fast-paced culture that permeates the legal community and society generally. I leave my post as Chair knowing the future is in good hands and the prospects bright.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gordon B. Nash". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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Executive Director Jayne R. Reardon



With an increased allocation of revenue from the registration fees, 2012 marked the first full year we were able to make progress on our strategic objective to promote professionalism through the use of technology. Our website was expanded to include support for lawyer-to-lawyer mentoring by sponsoring organizations, making it easier for smaller organizations

across the state to match interested mentors and mentees and to provide programming and resources to the mentoring pairs. Through various digital communication channels, including Facebook, Twitter and our Pro Say blog, we have been able to expand the geographic and demographic reach of our message and generate data that allows us to refine our communication strategies and better target our constituencies.

In-person collaboration continued. As our work becomes more well-known, invitations to join events and contribute to projects are increasing. Significant highlights included expanding law school programming beyond incoming-student orientation and involvement at the Judicial Education Conference, which allowed us to interface with judges who, in turn, play an instrumental role in influencing civility in the courtroom. Recognition of our successful initiatives resulted in invitations to leadership positions on national committees, including the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Professionalism and the National Legal Mentoring Consortium Steering Committee.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to outgoing Chair Gordon Nash under whose leadership the work of the Commission began to flourish. I and the rest of the talented Commission staff are grateful for the support and guidance of all our Commissioners as well as of the Justices of the Court. The work we are doing on behalf of the profession is most rewarding; I invite readers of this Annual Report to join the professionalism movement.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jayne R. Reardon".

COMMISSION

LEADERSHIP

The Supreme Court of Illinois established the Commission on Professionalism to promote among the lawyers and judges of Illinois principles of integrity, professionalism and civility; to foster commitment to the elimination of bias and divisiveness within the legal and judicial systems; and to ensure that those systems provide equitable, effective and efficient resolution of problems and disputes for the people of Illinois. (Rule 799(a))

Commissioners

The Illinois Supreme Court appoints the Chair, Vice Chair and the members of the Commission. The 2012 membership of the Commission included law school faculty, Illinois State Court judges, a United States District Court judge, lawyers, non-lawyers, and *ex officio* members from the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission and the MCLE Board. The Commissioners oversee the work of the Commission through committees and official Commission meetings.

Justice Robert R. Thomas,
Illinois Supreme Court Liaison to Commission

Gordon B. Nash, Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, *Chair*

Hon. Debra B. Walker, Circuit Court of Cook County, *Vice Chair*

John E. Corkery, The John Marshall Law School

Hon. Kathryn E. Creswell, 18th Judicial Circuit Court

C. Kristina Gunsalus, University of Illinois College of Law

Hon. Michael P. McCuskey, U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois

Jane DiRenzo Pigott, R3Group LLC

Vanessa Romeo, Joliet Junior College

Gwendolyn Y. Rowan, Cook County Juvenile Child Protection Division

Hon. Stephen L. Spomer, Appellate Court for the 5th District

Lawrence M. Templar, Jolivette & Templar

Hon. Richard L. Tognarelli, 3rd Judicial Circuit Court

Vincent F. Vitullo, *professor emeritus*, DePaul University College of Law

Edward J. Walsh, Walsh, Knippen, Knight & Pollock

Sonni C. Williams, City of Peoria

Jerome Larkin, ARDC, *ex officio*

Karen Litscher Johnson, MCLE Board, *ex officio*

Duties of the Commission

Rule 799(c) delineates the Commission's duties: to promote awareness of professionalism; gather and maintain information from Illinois and other states; to facilitate cooperation among practitioners, bar associations, law schools, courts, civic and lay organizations; to develop public statements on principles of ethical and professional responsibility; to collaborate with law schools regarding professionalism programs; and to monitor, approve and assist with professional responsibility CLE.

Commission Meetings

The Commission met four times in 2012, on March 16, June 2, September 14 and December 13.

Staff

The work of the Commission was guided and executed by the following staff during 2012:

Jayne R. Reardon, Executive Director

David S. Argentar, Deputy Director

Donna K. Crawford, Digital Media & Education Strategist

Michelle A. Silverthorn, Education Associate

Irma I. Heineman, Administrative Assistant



2012 Overview

We had an extremely successful year. Additional funding allowed us to further implement our long-term strategic objectives, including:

- **Expanding the Lawyer-to-Lawyer Mentoring Program.** By the end of 2012, 61 sponsoring organizations were participating in the mentoring program.
- **Increasing our Digital Media and Communications initiatives.** We devoted substantial resources to develop a functional digital communications system, including major social networking channels. Donna Crawford transitioned from her role as Education Director to direct our digital media efforts.
- **Adding an additional staff member to assist with Education.** In May 2012, we hired an Education Associate, Michelle Silverthorn, a 2008 law school graduate who had practiced law in New York and Chicago prior to joining the Commission.

“ If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.

~John Quincy Adams



“ *With every choice you make you are building your reputation within our profession and ultimately it is not your education, your talent, your credentials or your position that will make people take notice. It is your integrity that will make people take notice.*

~ Justice Robert Thomas



MENTORING PROGRAM

LAWYER-TO-LAWYER

One of the cornerstones of our efforts in 2012, the Mentoring Program involved over 450 mentor-new lawyer pairs by year end. The feedback received has been strongly positive, clearly demonstrating that lawyers, law firms, bar associations, government agencies and law schools around the state have fully embraced this professionalism initiative.



After the successful rollout and launch of mentoring in the latter part of 2011, we continued to promote and support the statewide Lawyer-to-Lawyer Mentoring Program. The template program documents set out structured activities and resources in each of the five areas of the professional responsibility CLE requirement (professionalism, civility, legal ethics, substance abuse/mental illness, and diversity/inclusion). Organizations may adopt the template plan or develop their own mentoring plan subject to Commission approval.

In 2012, we increased the number of organizations across Illinois sponsoring the program and the number of attorneys involved in mentoring. From a total of 34 approved organizations in November 2011, this initiative increased to 61 sponsoring organizations involving over 900 lawyers since inception.

In addition to law firms, bar associations, court entities and agencies throughout the state, six of nine Illinois law schools have implemented approved lawyer-to-lawyer mentoring programs, including The University of Illinois College of Law and Southern Illinois University School of Law, which can serve and attract lawyers from throughout central and southern Illinois, respectively. County and specialty bar associations throughout Chicago, the collar counties, Metro East and elsewhere have programs that are now available to a growing number of lawyers.

Throughout 2012, we continued to promote the program through in-person presentations and electronic outreach to recent graduates, newly admitted attorneys, potential sponsoring organizations and other members of the bar. Additionally, representatives from other jurisdictions and bar associations, most recently Colorado,

Louisiana and Washington, have contacted the Commission for advice and guidance in implementing their own mentoring programs and have modeled their program materials and structure on those developed by the Commission. Our membership on the Steering Committee of the National Legal Mentoring Consortium will provide the opportunity to collaborate and share best practices with program leaders in other states.

This year, we instituted a practice of recognizing sponsoring organizations completing their first program year. Program administrators and organization leaders received personal letters from Chief Justice Kilbride, thanking them for their support of the program, and participating attorneys received Commission-logo mugs.

Through a rolling survey of participants applying for CLE credits upon completion of the program, we have learned that the program has been enthusiastically received. Both mentors and mentees rated the program and its materials positively and would recommend the program to others. Over 90% of mentees agreed that their “understanding and appreciation of attorney professionalism increased as a result of participating in the mentoring program.” Over 98% of mentors and over 88% of mentees either agreed or strongly agreed that the program’s Mentoring Plan had helped to focus the learning experience. Almost 94% of mentors noted one or more ways that the program had benefited them professionally. Significantly, more than 98% of mentors, and 100% of mentees, reported that they planned to maintain a relationship with their mentoring partner after completing the program.

We are proud of the work of our numerous collaborating partners who are bringing mentoring to lawyers across the state, and gratefully acknowledge

the following sponsoring organizations for their diligence in ensuring the success of the program:

17th Judicial Circuit Court

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Illinois Chapter

Bryan Cave LLP

The Chicago Bar Association

Chicago-Lincoln American Inn of Court

Cook County Bar Association

Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office

Cox Law Firm

Decalogue Society of Lawyers

DePaul University College of Law

Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP

DuPage County Bar Association

DuPage Inns of Court

Dykema Gossett PLLC

Federal Bar Association Chicago Chapter

Goldenberg, Heller, Antognoli & Rowland PC

Greenberg Traurig LLP

Hellenic Bar Association of Illinois

Heller & Holmes

Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP

IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law

Illinois Attorney General’s Office

Illinois State Bar Association	Peoria County Bar Association
Indian-American Bar Association of Chicago	Phi Alpha Delta Fraternity Chicago Alumni Chapter
Jefferson County Bar Association	Polsinelli PC
Jenner & Block	Richard Linn American Inn of Court
The John Marshall Law School	Sangamon County Bar Association
Johnson & Johnson PC	Schiff Hardin LLP
Johnston Greene LLC	Southern Illinois University School of Law
Jones Day	St. Clair County Bar Association
Justinian Society of Lawyers	State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor - 2nd District
Kane County Bar Association	Swanson, Martin & Bell LLP
Kane County State's Attorney's Office	University of Illinois College of Law
Katten & Temple LLP	Vedder Price PC
Lake County Bar Association	Will County Bar Association
Lake County Public Defender's Office	Winston & Strawn LLP
Latham & Watkins LLP	Zanck, Coen, Wright Saladin PC
Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender	
Madison County Bar Association	
McHenry County Bar Association	
McLean County Bar Association	
Michelle M. Schafer, Attorney at Law LLC	
Morse, Bolduc & Dinos LLC	
Much Shelist PC	
Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP	
Northern Illinois University College of Law	

“ I enjoyed meeting with my mentee and receiving her fresh outlook on the law. I thought the program was spectacular. It reminded me of the struggles of new attorneys and how I learned through doing and earned my stripes.

~Mentor Participant

“ My mentor took it upon himself to meet with me well above and beyond the requirements of the program. He provided me with insight and experience, and helped me to advance my skills as an attorney. Becoming involved with the mentoring program was among the best professional decisions I have ever made.

~New Lawyer Participant

DIGITAL MEDIA

INFORM * EDUCATE * ENGAGE

In 2012, we significantly expanded the strategic digital communication implementation that we began in 2011. Through these efforts, we have achieved a more interactive, dynamic publishing platform for content delivery and we have steadily increased our reach and engagement with lawyers and judges.

Informing, educating and engaging lawyers and judges about professionalism is the foundation of our digital media strategy. Throughout the year, we refined our digital infrastructure and built more comprehensive processes for the Commission's digital media outreach and communication. Our strategy is designed to facilitate dialogue and inspire our constituents. Within our digital media channels, lawyers have multiple opportunities to share their challenges and ideas for solutions.

We have continued to strengthen our internal capacity to produce digital media content and to employ strategic communication processes. We are currently writing protocol for all of our digital media processes. Within these processes, we gather and analyze data to inform the refinement of our strategy and infrastructure and to define growing trends and needs.

In 2012, we saw exponential growth in the number of visitors and frequency of visits for all of the Commission's online properties since our online presence was first established in September 2011.



Pro Say Blog

Our Pro Say Blog offers an opportunity to present insightful content on a wide variety of substantive professionalism issues, law practice news and trends in the legal profession. The blog is listed on the ABA Journal Blawgroll and we are growing a lively and engaging community. During 2012, our blog engagement grew from 20,226 post views, 5,761 readers, and 18 posts to:

- * 418,674 post views
- * 112,405 readers
- * 71 posts



LinkedIn

LinkedIn is our channel for daily engagement with law professionals. According to the 2012 ABA survey, 95% of lawyers and 88% of law firms surveyed are on LinkedIn. We continue to actively build our LinkedIn connections and network with the legal community. Our network grew from 1,887 connections and 368,500 in network to:

- * **2,547 connections**
- * **695,719 network**



Facebook

Our Facebook page provides a unique potential for targeted exposure. According to the ABA Survey, 68% of lawyers surveyed have a Facebook account. Our Facebook page offers consistent and strategic opportunities to share insights, tips, and resources with lawyers and offers a platform for sharing among lawyers. Our visibility increased dramatically as a result. Engagement grew from 190 followers and 15,535 post reach to:

- * **1,325 followers**
- * **1,091,893 post reach**



Twitter

Twitter is our forum for real-time interactive content and one of the best ways to stay up-to-date on current events in the legal community. Through Twitter, we interact with legal thought leaders and authors, link to articles and blog posts, participate in discussions, network via #hashtags during events, and recommend interesting websites and resources to our followers. We experienced rapid growth from 80 tweets and 126 Twitter followers to:

- * **769 tweets**
- * **437 followers**



Website: ilsccp.org

Our website provides information about the Commission, our innovative lawyer-to-lawyer mentoring program, our pivotal role in professional responsibility education, current pro bono opportunities, law school and judicial initiatives, our publications and resources. Via our website, lawyers may join our email list and link to our social media channels. In 2012, we had 102,535 visitors and 188,372 page views.

Lawyer Mentor Microsites

Organizations sponsoring mentoring program may host a “microsite” on the Commission website. We provide training for each organization’s program administrators to support program implementation. Microsites feature new lawyer and mentor applications and data systems, news posts for mentoring program events, and announcements and reminders. In 2012, we had 32 microsites.

E-mail Campaigns

Email blasts are part of the digital media strategy for the purpose of leading attorneys to our website and social media channels so they may learn about our program opportunities and resources. We delivered three email campaigns in 2012. These included welcoming new lawyers admitted to the Illinois Bar in the spring term and the fall term and the distribution of the annual report.

Lawyers' History Project

We were proud to launch a Lawyers' History Project in 2012 with the goal of capturing on videotape the stories of leaders in our field that would serve as a source of inspiration and motivation for lawyers and judges now and in the future. We recorded the stories of five legal leaders speaking about doing the right thing and striving for excellence and professionalism.

We were able to obtain the last recorded interview of the dearly departed Justice Mary Ann G. McMorrow. She was a great friend of the Commission's and will be sorely missed. In addition, we thank the following leaders for their time in sharing their inspiring thoughts and deeds to advance the cause of professionalism:

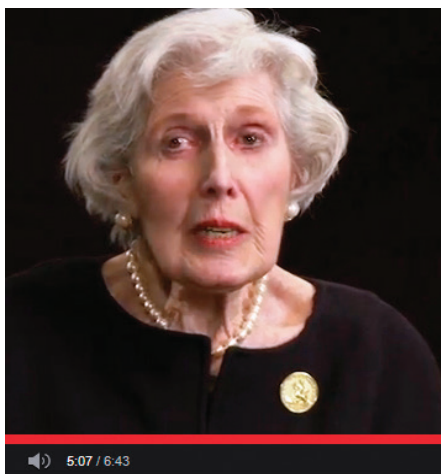
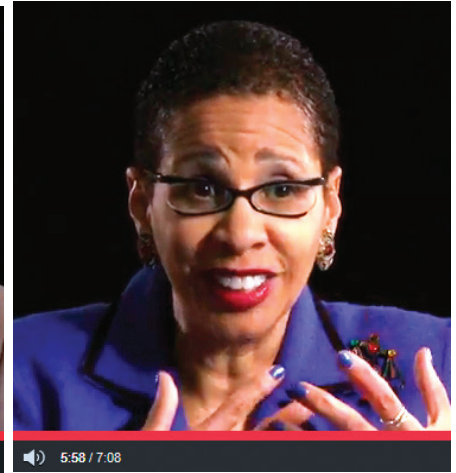
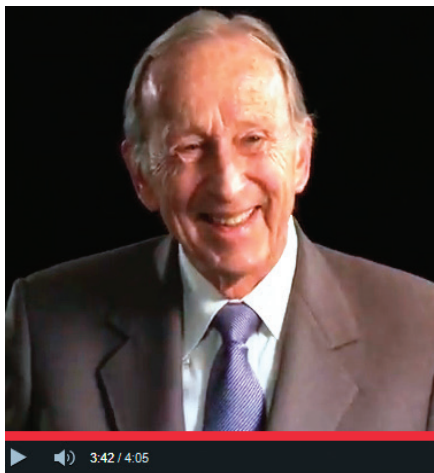
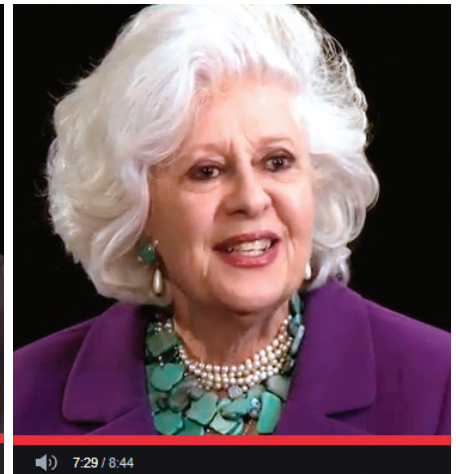
Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald

Justice Ilana Diamond Rovner

Thomas P. Sullivan

Judge Ann Claire Williams

The entire series of our Lawyer History Project will be posted on the Commission's Pro Say blog and all other social media properties in 2013.



YouTube

Our YouTube posts include: a press conference video announcing the mentoring program, a video on how to design and deliver interactive professional responsibility CLE program, and a video for the law school orientation programs. The law school orientation video was designed for attorneys who volunteer to facilitate professional responsibility discussions at law school orientations. The mentoring program press conference had 57 views, the interactive professional responsibility CLE video had 377 views, and the law school orientation video had 55 views.

* 489 total video views



EDUCATION

CONTINUOUS LEARNING

The Commission continued to fulfill its Rule 799(a) mandate by leveraging continuing legal education to promote integrity, professionalism, and civility. We fulfilled our mandate by: assisting CLE providers; meeting with the CLE Advisory Group of providers; preparing professional responsibility CLE presentations; reviewing and approving professional responsibility courses; conducting research on professional responsibility in Illinois and across the nation, preparing reports on professional responsibility CLE, as well as on CLE generally.

Assisting CLE Providers

Through the year, we assisted CLE providers with their professional responsibility and general CLE questions. We also audited several CLE courses over the year to ensure that they met the high standards of professional responsibility.

In addition to telephone calls, emails and in-person meetings with providers, we interacted with providers through two CLE Advisory Group meetings, in June and November. The providers discussed various education matters including the content of the CLE professional responsibility guidelines, their areas of concern with professional responsibility CLE, and their other suggestions for improvement. We eventually implemented several of the Group's suggestions, including revising the Commission's CLE guidelines and expanding the scope of the professionalism component of professional responsibility.

We thank the members of our CLE Advisory Group for their hard work,

dedication and collaboration:

Mary Andreoni, Illinois ARDC

Carol Casey, Office of the Cook County Public Guardian

Charlene Foss, LexisNexis

Paula Holderman & Kurt Plocher, Winston & Strawn LLP

Jeanne Heaton, Illinois State Bar Association

Jill Eckert McCall, American Bar Association

Beth McMeen, Chicago Bar Association

Megan Knox Moore, IICLE

Margaret Naughton, American Bar Association

Jaime Rivera & Ruta Stropus, Office of the Illinois Attorney General

Gina Roers, West LegalEdcenter

Mark Shlifka, Cook County State's Attorney's Office

Joshua Vincent, Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP

CLE Presentations

In collaboration with providers and presenters, we prepared and presented numerous CLE courses, including for:

Association of Women Attorneys of Lake County

Chicago Bar Association

Decalogue Society of Lawyers

Illinois State Bar Association

Jefferson County Bar Association

The Judicial Education Conference

Lake County Bar Association

Loyola University Chicago School of Law

Office of Cook County Public Defender

CLE Course Review

The number of professional responsibility continuing legal education courses and activities continued its year-over-year growth. We approved 8,716 professional responsibility course applications, including traditional course applications from organizations and non-traditional and out-of-state course applications from attorneys. The total includes 8,109 CLE provider applications, 438 out-of-state course attorney applications, and 169 non-traditional course attorney applications.

CLE Provider Application Growth

2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012
1,725 2,508 3,190 5,754 6,774 8,109

Organizations provided 8,109 professional responsibility CLE sessions during 2012. Sessions included professional responsibility courses and all professional responsibility segments offered at conferences and seminars. The organizations represent CLE providers from 40 states.

The applications submitted for professional responsibility approval ask providers to describe the content of their courses with reference to each of the five substantive areas referenced in Rule 794(d). In 2012, courses on legal ethics and professionalism dominated as they have in previous years. The Illinois CLE providers distributed course content over the five professional responsibility areas as follows:

- * 43% ethics
- * 39% professionalism
- * 11% civility
- * 4% diversity-inclusion
- * 3% mental illness-wellness

We continued to encourage providers to offer professional responsibility

courses across all areas of professional responsibility. We amended our CLE Guidelines, facilitated a variety of non-ethics presentations, and otherwise engaged in concerted outreach efforts to encourage Illinois providers to increase offerings in areas beyond compliance-based ethics courses. Nonetheless, the data shows that our efforts have had little effect in changing the distribution of the professional responsibility courses. One theory for the ethics-heavy distribution of professional responsibility coursework is that many multistate providers wish to offer ethics courses so as to ensure course approval in jurisdictions that require only the narrower category of ethics CLE.

Out-of-state courses that the MCLE Board has approved as complying with the general credit standards also require Commission approval for any professional responsibility content. We approved 438 individual out-of-state applications for attorneys who wished to claim professional responsibility credit. This more than doubles the 2011 numbers (248).

Non-traditional courses and activities include law school courses, bar association meetings, part-time teaching of law courses, and legal scholarship (Rule 795(d)). In 2012, we approved 169 non-traditional applications for professional responsibility credit. This is more than triple the number approved in 2011 (52).

CLE Guidelines

Following discussion with providers, we revised our CLE Guidelines to better delineate the parameters of professional responsibility CLE and to encourage providers to offer courses broader in content than compliance with ethical requirements that form the floor of acceptable conduct. In particular, we amended our Guidelines to make clear that the following substantive topics are of significant educational value for attorneys and constitute professional responsibility legal education under the “Professionalism” category: (1) social media and technology, (2) motion and trial practice, and (3) client communication and client relations.

In addition, we expanded our “Diversity” topic guidelines to include courses that focus on ethnic, gender, racial, and socioeconomic status of clients. We also included a focus on work-life balance under the “Mental Illness and Addiction” category. Finally, we revised our “Civility” category descriptions to include suggested skills that a CLE facilitator could teach attorneys with the goal of reducing incivility.

We have received positive feedback for our new CLE guidelines and intend, with the assistance of our CLE Advisory Group, to continue refining these Guidelines to better meet the needs of Illinois providers and lawyers in the changing legal climate.



Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.

~ Benjamin Franklin

LAW SCHOOLS

COLLABORATION

Rule 799(c)(8) requires that we collaborate with law schools in the development and presentation of professionalism programs for law student orientation and other events as coordinated with law school faculty.



New Law Student Orientation

For the first time in 2012, all nine of the Illinois law schools collaborated with the Commission in a professionalism component of their new student orientations: Chicago-Kent College of Law, DePaul University College of Law, The John Marshall Law School, Loyola University School of Law, Northern Illinois University College of Law, Northwestern University Law School, Southern Illinois University School of Law, University of Chicago Law School, and University of Illinois College of Law.

At each program, an Illinois Supreme Court or Appellate Court Justice welcomed Illinois law students to the

profession and administered a Pledge of Professionalism to mark the beginning of the students' careers in law. This was usually preceded or followed by an informal reception where the Justice met many of the students at the law school. Several schools also had an additional session where volunteer attorneys facilitated thought-provoking discussions on professionalism, ethics and civility using real-life scenarios.

Southern Illinois University School of Law students have an expanded version of the orientation program. First-year law students engage in a one-credit class in which they work together to draft their own unique Pledge of Professionalism. An Illinois

Supreme Court Justice then presides with the Dean and a member of the Commission staff in a formal induction ceremony where the students recite their Pledge of Professionalism then cross the stage to receive individual acknowledgement from the Dean, the Justice and the Commission.

The Commission gratefully recognizes the following law schools, judges, and attorneys for their participation in law school orientation programming:

Chicago-Kent College of Law

Justice Patrick J. Quinn, Illinois Appellate Court, First District

Justice Mary K. Rochford, Illinois Appellate Court, First District

DePaul University College of Law

Justice Aurelia Pucinski, Illinois Appellate Court, First District

Justice James R. Epstein, Illinois Appellate Court, First District

Facilitators

Ann Hopkins Avery
Andrea Flynn

Jerry Goldberg
Mitchell Goldberg
Jeffery Katz
Erin Kelly
Aseet Patel
John Stefani
John Sciacotta

The John Marshall Law School

Justice Kathryn E. Zenoff, Illinois
Appellate Court, Second District

Justice P. Scott Neville, Jr., Illinois
Appellate Court, First District

Facilitators

John Costello
Dan Cotter
Kenneth Goetz
John Mahoney
Krusha Patel
Rhonda Sallee
Carolyn Sorock
Rene Torrado
Robert Ruiz
Robert Winter

Loyola University Law School

Justice Robert R. Thomas, Illinois
Supreme Court

Northern Illinois University College of Law

Chief Justice Thomas L. Kilbride,
Illinois Supreme Court

Facilitators

Tim Jagielski
David Kurlinkus
Christina Mahoney
Larry Stein
John Palmer
Jayne Reardon
Edward J. Walsh

Northwestern University Law School

Justice Mary Jane Theis, Illinois
Supreme Court

Southern Illinois University School of Law

Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier, Illinois
Supreme Court

Michelle A. Silverthorn, Commission
Representative

University of Chicago Law School

Justice Shelvin Louise Marie Hall,
Illinois Appellate Court, First
District

University of Illinois College of Law

Justice Rita B. Garman, Illinois
Supreme Court

Facilitators

David Argentar
William Brinkmann
Nancy Glazer
Janet Grove
Joseph Guyette
David Krchak





“ *The future of our profession depends on professionalism as the touchstone of behavior both while students are in law school and later, as members of our legal community.*

~Justice Rita Garman

Other Law School Programs

The John Marshall Law School: We were again pleased to participate with Justice Anne Burke and the staff of John Marshall Law School in the Third Annual Illinois Supreme Court Justice Anne E. Burke Professionalism Series. Commission staff presented at the second installment of the series, discussing professionalism issues facing today’s law students and new attorneys. We would like to thank Justice Margaret O’Mara Frossard (ret.), Director of Professionalism and Engagement, for organizing the professionalism series and inviting us to participate.

Loyola University School of Law: Loyola again required all first year law students to attend a civility program at the beginning of the second semester. A panel of several panelists, including practitioners and a judge, shared perspectives and answered the students’ questions. Executive Director Jayne Reardon again was asked to serve as moderator. We thank Giselle Santibanez-Bania, the Associate Director for Student Services, for organizing this panel and inviting us to moderate.

In August, on two separate occasions, we explored the challenges of professionalism and civility with students in the externship program in order to prepare them for their attorney careers. We thank Professor Josie Gough, Director of Experiential Learning, for her assistance in organizing this programming.

In November, as part of an afternoon program titled “The Happy Lawyer: The Path from Stress to Well-Being,” we presented an innovative program on civility that involved significant interactivity, including polling, exercises and group discussions. We thank Fr. John Costello for organizing the event and asking us to participate.

Northern Illinois University College of Law: The Commission was privileged to be invited by Dean Jennifer Rosato to attend Northern Illinois University College of Law’s Murer Lecture on Professionalism series. The lectures took place four times over the course of 2012, covering topics such as access to justice, ethical issues in practice, and the Justice Department “Torture Memos.” The discussions were insightful and invigorating and we congratulate Dean Rosato and her staff at NIU on the success of the series.

ADVANCING PROFESSIONALISM

BENCH & BAR OUTREACH

In addition to our mentoring, education, and social media efforts, the Commission participated in other forms of outreach aimed at advancing professionalism among the bench and bar.

Judicial Collaboration

For the 2012 Judicial Education Conference (EdCon 2012), Executive Director Jayne Reardon served on a panel that included Justice Tom Lytton of the Illinois 3rd District Appellate Court and Judge Diane Shelley of the Circuit Court of Cook County. A program entitled “Judicial Civility” that included a video and discussion component was presented on January 31, 2012 and April 17, 2012. We received a great deal of positive feedback from the presentation and appreciate the opportunity to work with and for judges, exploring ways they can influence a changed legal culture, particularly in litigation.



Across Illinois

Throughout the year, we joined forces with representatives from legal organizations across the State in outreach and educational programs and events. We continued to attend a variety of dinners, receptions and other events in order to raise awareness of our organization and mission among the Illinois bench and bar. A representative sampling of the organizations we collaborated with during 2012 includes:

Chicago Association of Legal
Personnel Administrators

Chicago Bar Association

Chicago Daily Law Bulletin

DuPage County Bar Association

Illinois Attorney General's Office

Illinois Bar Foundation

Illinois State Bar Association

Jefferson County Bar Association

Just the Beginning Foundation

The Justinian Society of Lawyers
 Kane County Bar Association
 Lawyers' Assistance Program
 McHenry County Bar Association
 Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity
 St. Clair County Bar Association
 Winnebago County Bar Association
 Women's Bar Association of Illinois
 The United Nations Children's Fund



Pro Bono Stakeholders' Meeting

On May 23, 2012, we convened a Pro Bono Stakeholders' Meeting. At the meeting, several representatives of the Commission and of the MCLE Board listened to perspectives from public interest representatives and funders about the ramifications of providing limited CLE credit for pro bono work. These discussions are ongoing. We thank the following for their participation in this meeting and the debate about this important topic:

Alicia Aiken, Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago

Michael Bergmann, Public Interest Law Initiative

Margaret Benson, Chicago Volunteer Legal Services

Leslie Corbett, Illinois Equal Justice Foundation

Bob Glaves, Chicago Bar Foundation

Marc Kadish, Mayer Brown LLP

Maria Minor, Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP

Michael O'Connor, Prairie State Legal Services

Ruth Ann Schmidt, Lawyer's Trust Fund of Illinois

Ramona Sullivan, Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation, Inc.

Barry Taylor, Equip for Equality

Cheryl Zalenski, American Bar Association

Intermediary Program Advisory Committee

In 2012, a state-wide advisory committee was formed to study and advise the Commission on the feasibility and efficacy of developing and promoting a state-wide mechanism, such as an intermediary or ombudsman program, to influence and promote increased professional behavior among lawyers and judges. The results of the Committee's work will be released in 2013. The Committee includes representatives of the bench and bar from across the state:

William J. Brinkmann, Thomas, Mamer & Haughey LLP

Professor Freeman Farrow, DePaul University College of Law

Judge Janet Holmgren, Illinois 17th Judicial Circuit

Judge Michael Hyman, Circuit Court of Cook County

Thomas Jakeway, Illinois 17th Judicial Circuit

Jerome Larkin, Illinois ARDC

Judge Marjorie C. Laws, Circuit Court of Cook County

Juanita Rodriguez, Velázquez Rodríguez LLC

Judge S. Gene Schwarm, Illinois 4th Judicial Circuit

John Sciacotta, Shesky & Froelich

Judge Thomas R. Sumner, ret.

Gambrell Professionalism Award

We nominated the circuit-wide professionalism initiative of the 17th Judicial Circuit and the Winnebago and Boone County Bar Associations for the American Bar Association's prestigious Gambrell Professionalism Award. This initiative was recognized as a national best practices model that should be replicated by other jurisdictions across the country. The award involved a cash prize and recognition at a luncheon during the ABA Annual Meeting. In addition, we hosted a reception for our partners in professionalism at the Commission offices, inviting various other coordinators and directors of professionalism commissions and programs around the country.



Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.

~ John F. Kennedy

Outside Illinois

The Commission participated in a variety of national committees and conferences focused on attorney education, mentoring and professionalism. Among others, we attended:

ABA National Consortium of Professionalism Initiatives

ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism

The Association for Continuing Legal Education Annual Meeting

National Legal Mentoring Consortium Steering Committee

National Legal Mentoring Conference

The work of the Commission is drawing attention well beyond the United States' borders. In March, Samantha Barras, Executive Director of the Solicitors' Regulation Authority in London, initiated a meeting with Jayne Reardon to discuss the work of the Commission.

Ms. Barras extended an invitation to Ms. Reardon to travel to London in the fall of 2012 to speak to solicitors about the Commission's experiences and metrics regarding professionalism education; however, resources did not allow our participation.

FINANCE

OPERATIONS

Rule 756 provides that the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission of the Illinois Supreme Court remit fifteen dollars from the annual registration fee collected from each attorney to the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism to fund its operations and programs. This annual assessment is the Commission's only source of funding.

Selden Fox LTD, Certified Public Accountants, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, conducted an annual independent audit of the Commission. Selden Fox LTD reported the financial position of the Commission on Professionalism as of December 31, 2012, was in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and reported no material deficiencies.

The Audit and Finance Committee met with the auditor to discuss the Report and, subsequently, recommended the Report for approval by the Commission. The Commission approved the Report by unanimous vote and the full independent audit report, including an accounting of the monies received and expended for Commission activities, was provided to the Court.

We gratefully acknowledge the pro bono legal services provided by Joshua Waldbeser of Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP in connection with modifications to our employee benefit plans and appointment of a corporate trustee for the plans.

2012 Revenue & Expense Statement

REVENUE

<i>Registration fees</i>	\$1,005,650
<i>Interest income</i>	\$2,423
Total revenue	\$1,008,073

EXPENSE

<i>Compensation and benefits</i>	\$577,879
<i>General operations</i>	\$285,622
<i>Professional services</i>	\$61,901
Total expense	\$925,402

BALANCE

\$82,671



ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

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