



## Message from the President



Dear Members,

HLAI Charities had a successful fundraiser at Cellular Field on August 12, 2010. Approximately 90 people attended the event. A special thanks to Linda Perez, Board Member of HLA I Charities for coordinating the event. At our last board meeting preparations have begun for our first general membership meeting/social in October. The board is also in the process of planning a CLE for this year.

HLAI is looking for membership involvement, in the following committees: Judicial Evaluations, Latina Lawyers Committee, Membership Committee, Professional Development, Social Committee, JD Mentors, Immigration Committee, Community Outreach, Holiday Food Baskets, Law School Committee and LGBT Committee.

If you are interested in volunteering on one of the committees or if you have any programs you would like to see HLA I offer. Please contact me at [rosasilva73@hotmail.com](mailto:rosasilva73@hotmail.com)

The Board looks forward to working with our membership.

Saludos,

Rosa Maria Silva

## Announcements

Congratulations to **Ricardo Meza** for his appointment as Executive Inspector General for the Agencies of the Illinois Governor.

Ricardo is the Midwest Regional Counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) and previously served as an Assistant United States Attorney.

As Midwest Regional Counsel for MALDEF, a national civil rights organization, Meza has led its litigation and policy efforts in ten Midwestern states.

In 2008, he received the Cook County State's Attorney's Office's El Humanitario Award.

Meza served for more than a decade in the U.S. Attorney's Office. He was also assigned as an Equal Employment Opportunity Investigator for the Executive Office for United States Attorneys.

The Office of Executive Inspector General is an independent agency that investigates Illinois Ethics Act violations, fraud, waste, abuse and misconduct in state government.

The office also provides and coordinates ethics training for all state employees under its jurisdiction.

It has jurisdiction over all state agencies, boards, and commissions under the jurisdiction of the Governor, including the state's public universities.

It receives, self-initiates and investigates complaints of violations of law, rule or regulation.

It also investigates claims of abuse of authority or other forms of misconduct by officers, employees and appointees of state agencies under its jurisdiction.

Ricardo Meza is an alumnus of Illinois State University and The John Marshall Law School.

Congratulations to **Monica Torres-Linares**. She has been selected by the Chicago Bar Foundation to be a recipient of the Chicago Bar Foundation Sun-Times Public Interest Law Fellowship. Through a generous \$2 million *cy pres* award from a case involving the Chicago Sun-Times, in 2007 the CBF created The Chicago Bar Foundation Sun-Times Public Interest Law Fellowship Program. These fellowships will provide significant loan repayment assistance to at least 50 outstanding recent law school graduates who have chosen to pursue careers in legal aid or public interest law at a CBF-funded organization or at a qualifying legal organization serving other parts of Illinois. First awarded in 2007, the CBF awards five annual fellowships of up to \$50,000 per fellowship to individual legal aid or public interest law attorneys.

**Monica Torres -Linares** was also a finalist for the Women's Bar Foundation Stipend.

On August 14, 2010, **Monica Torres-Linares**, A Staff Attorney with the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago (LAF) was a featured speaker for the radio program, "Independent Living" on 950 AM in Chicago. Monica talked about LAF and the legal services they provide to low-income families, and elderly and disabled individuals throughout Cook County.

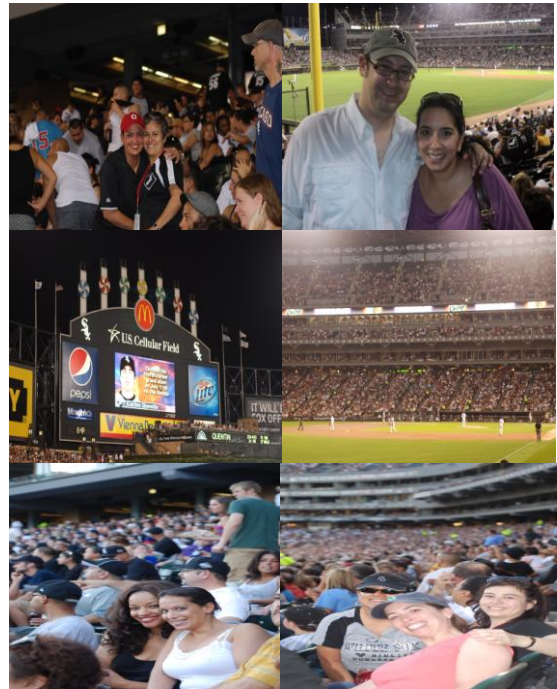
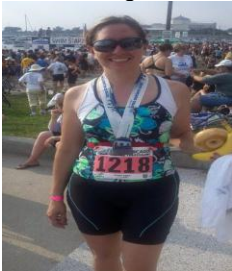


HLAI has written a letter in support of Legal Prep Charter Academies.

Legal Prep Charter Academies is a non-profit founded to create a legal theme charter school. The mission is to prepare Chicago's Youth to success in college and life. The goal is also to increase diversity in the legal profession by encouraging underprivileged children in Chicago to attend law school.

Legal Prep will be going before the Chicago Public School Board in order to be approved as a Charter school.

Congratulations to **Litza Mavrothalasitis** for finishing the 2010 Chicago Triathlon August 29, 2010.



**\*\*\*HLAI invites notices of member's achievements. Please submit them to Claudia Castro at [cecklc2003@yahoo.com](mailto:cecklc2003@yahoo.com)\*\*\***

## August Overview

On August 12<sup>th</sup> HLAI Charities hosted a fundraiser for the JD mentors program at US Cellular field. Fun was had by all.



## Upcoming Events/SAVE THE DATES! September Events

### HNBA 35th Annual Convention

September 8-11, 2010  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**HLAI Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on September 14th, at 6:00 p.m., Sanchez, Daniels at Hoffman, 333 West Wacker, Suite 500. **Please RSVP by September 13<sup>th</sup>** to [rosasilva73@hotmail.com](mailto:rosasilva73@hotmail.com). Martha Victoria-Diaz has graciously agreed to host the meeting.

HLAI and PRBA will be co-sponsoring with the Circuit Court of Cook County, Honorable Timothy C. Evans, Chief Judge Latino Hispanic Heritage Tours. The event will take place on **Wednesday, September 29 and Thursday, September 30, 2010, at the Richard J. Daley Center**. Attendees will tour the courthouse and then the meet HLAI and PRBA presidents and hosting judges.

On Tuesday, September 14, 2010, HLAI Board Member, Judge Jesse Reyes, will be administering the oath of office to 2010-2011 Officers and Board Members of the North Suburban Bar Association (NSBA). The NSBA Annual Installation and Award Dinner will take place at the North Shore Country Club, 1340



Glenview, Illinois. Cocktails at 6:00 pm and Dinner will be served at 7:00 pm

## October Events

**HLAI General Membership** meeting/social will be on October 12, 2010. **Anita Alvarez** will be the keynote speaker. Location to be announced.

## Volunteer/Misc. Opportunities

### **Sociedad Civica Mexicana de Illinois, Inc. 2010.**

The Mexican Civic Society is proud to announce sponsorship opportunities for the upcoming Chicago celebrations of Mexico's 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mexico's Independence and 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mexican Revolution. For more information: (773) 376-8445 or email at [info@sociedadcivicamexicana.org](mailto:info@sociedadcivicamexicana.org)



Would you like to connect with other Latina lawyers/law students? If yes please contact the Latina Lawyers Committee at [latina.lawyers@yahoo.com](mailto:latina.lawyers@yahoo.com)

## Employment Opportunities

The **Law firm of Tristan & Cervantes** seeks a 2L or 3L law student to be a law clerk whose responsibilities will include completing research and other projects in the areas of Commercial Business Litigation, Construction Law, Employment Law, Landlord Rights and Responsibilities, and General Transactional work. Please send resume and writing sample to Pedro Cervantes at [pcervantes@tristancervantes.com](mailto:pcervantes@tristancervantes.com)

The Chicago office of **Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP**, a leading national law firm, has a position for an **Employee Benefits and Tax Associate** with zero to five years of experience. Experienced candidates must be licensed in Illinois and have the following qualifications:

- Substantive legal experience in Employee Benefits Law.

- Substantive legal experience in Federal Income Taxation.
- Background in a quantitative discipline (e.g., mathematics, accounting, finance, natural or physical science).
- Strong writing skills.

Candidates currently in law school must have the following qualifications:

- Have completed or enrolled to complete by graduation at least four federal income tax courses.
- Interest in Employee Benefits Law, preferably through coursework or experience.
- Background in a quantitative discipline (e.g., mathematics, accounting, finance, natural or physical science).
- Strong writing skills.

The Firm provides an excellent work environment and benefits package. Compensation is commensurate with experience. Please send your resume, cover letter, transcript and a writing sample to:

Kelly M. Gofron  
email: [KGofron@hinshawlaw.com](mailto:KGofron@hinshawlaw.com)

[www.hinshawlaw.com](http://www.hinshawlaw.com)

Only candidates contacted for an interview will receive a response. Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP is an Affirmative Action EEO Employer.

NO SEARCH FIRMS OR HEADHUNTERS PLEASE.

The **Rockford** office of **Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP**, a leading national law firm, is seeking an Associate with two or more years of experience to join its established Labor and Employment Practice Group. Experience with employment counseling and litigation, defense of discrimination claims, and representing and advising clients in collective bargaining, wage and hour matters and related issues is preferred. This is an excellent opportunity for candidates seeking a high level of responsibility in a diverse and progressive law firm environment.

The Firm provides a competitive benefits package and opportunity for advancement. Please submit your cover letter and resume in confidence to:

Jacqueline Gay, Office Manager  
email: [jgay@hinshawlaw.com](mailto:jgay@hinshawlaw.com)

[www.hinshawlaw.com](http://www.hinshawlaw.com)



Only candidates contacted for an interview will receive a response. Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP is an Affirmative Action EEO Employer.

The **Chicago** office of **Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP**, a leading law firm with 500 attorneys nationwide, is seeking a full-time Associate with four to six years of Employment Litigation experience. The ideal candidate must be a reliable, self-starter with the experience of handling all phases of a file. A commitment to exceptional client service, top quality written work product, strong academic credentials and an interest and willingness to participate in business development efforts is required. Previous participation in law review or moot court is preferred.

This is an excellent opportunity for candidates seeking a high level of responsibility in a diverse and progressive law firm environment. The Firm offers a competitive benefits package and opportunity for advancement.

Please submit your resume and cover letter in confidence to:

Kelly Gofron  
Legal Recruitment & Development Manager  
email: [kgofron@hinshawlaw.com](mailto:kgofron@hinshawlaw.com)

[www.hinshawlaw.com](http://www.hinshawlaw.com)

Only candidates contacted for an interview will receive a response. Hinshaw & Culbertson is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer.

IL Atty Gen  
<http://www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/about/jobs/index.html>

**Katz Law Office**, Ltd. is a growing neighborhood law firm dedicated to serving Chicago's Spanish speaking communities.

Attorney applicant need have a minimum of two years experience in family, criminal, immigration, consumer law, and/or civil litigation.

Please send resume, 2-3 writing samples and three work references to Mr. Katz at [matthew@katzlawchicago.com](mailto:matthew@katzlawchicago.com)

**Catholic Immigration Network, Inc (Clinic)** has job listings.  
<http://cliniclegal.org/job-opportunities-and-internships>

## Scholarship/Student Opportunities

The **Law firm of Tristan & Cervantes** seeks a 2L or 3L law student to be a law clerk whose responsibilities will include

completing research and other projects in the areas of Commercial Business Litigation, Construction Law, Employment Law, Landlord Rights and Responsibilities, and General Transactional work. Please send resume and writing sample to Pedro Cervantes at [pcervantes@tristancervantes.com](mailto:pcervantes@tristancervantes.com)

The Cook County State's Attorney's Office is hosting their 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Minority Law Students Reception. The evening will consist of a short program followed by a networking reception. The event will be held at the John Marshall Law School, Room 3 East, 315 South Plymouth Court, Chicago, Illinois 60604 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on October 16, 2010. Registration begins at 5:15 p.m. If you are interested in attending please contact April Evans at 312/603-1871 or [April.Evans@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:April.Evans@cookcountyil.gov). This event is co-sponsored by the National District Attorneys Association.

2011 Summer Legal Internships with NRDC-Chicago Office  
[http://search1.smartsearchonline.com/nrdc/jobs/jobdetails.asp?job\\_number=560974&sourcename=Indeed](http://search1.smartsearchonline.com/nrdc/jobs/jobdetails.asp?job_number=560974&sourcename=Indeed)

## Membership Benefits

HLAI is participating in the **American Airlines Business ExtrAA Travel Awards Program** to earn travel rewards for travel to the HNBE Conference and other professional events as designated by the board.

By designating HLAI as your business, **YOU and HLAI, BOTH, can earn travel rewards toward future travel. Please include HLAI during your summer air travel on AA!!**

**Business Name:** HLAI Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois

**Business ExtrAA Account Number:** 787505

To earn Business ExtrAA travel rewards, all you need to do is ensure the HLAI Business ExtrAA account number appears on all your tickets with American Airlines, American Eagle® or AmericanConnection®.