



Message from the President



Dear Members,

HLAI would like to thank all its members for their support last year. Without your help many of the programs and events would not have been a success.

With the beginning of the new year, HLA I is in the process of planning many events to bring our members and other professional organizations together for mentoring and networking opportunities.

Please remember to renew your dues. Your dues help HLA I continue to provide programs to our attorney and student members.

If you have any programs you would like to see HLA I offer. Please contact me at rosasilva73@hotmail.com

The Board looks forward to working with our membership.

Saludos,

Rosa Maria Silva

Announcements



Congratulations to **Judge Edmund Ponce de Leon** for being named Presiding Judge for the County Division in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

Prior to this Judge Edmund Ponce de Leon was presiding Judge of the Cook County Circuit Court's Fourth Municipal District --the first Hispanic ever to rise to the position of Presiding Judge.

Judge Ponce de Leon was elected to the bench in 1996 and was immediately assigned to the Domestic Relations Division where he served as a trial judge. Later he was assigned an Independent Calendar in that division, hearing pre-trial, trial and post-divorce matters. In January 2001 he was transferred to the Law Division where he was assigned to the Commercial Section presiding over an Independent Commercial Calendar hearing pre-trial, trial and post-trial matters.

Prior to becoming a judge, Judge Ponce de Leon practiced bankruptcy and commercial law from 1984 through 1996 with several law firms as follows: Ponce de Leon & Salgado, as a solo practitioner, and Rodriguez & Villalobos. His experience entailed litigation in contract law, consumer fraud, franchise law, consumer bankruptcy, taxation and administrative matters, including labor and employment disputes. Also, he was general counsel to a U.S. Trustee in the Federal Bankruptcy Court, and was licensed as a trial attorney before the Federal Trial Bar in the Northern District of Illinois. In his early legal career, Judge Ponce de Leon handled family law, real estate transactions, personal injury and workers' compensation.

While in the Domestic Relations Division, Judge Ponce de Leon co-chaired the Child Representative Program and served as a member of the lecture panels on Child Custody and Psychological Testing in Child Custody Cases.

Judge Ponce de Leon is a member of various Cook County Circuit Court committees, including the Adult Probation Oversight Committee and the Committee on Racial, Ethnic and Sexual Orientation Awareness. In 2000, he was selected to serve as an official mentor for new judges by the Mentoring Committee of the Chief Judge's Office.

Judge Ponce de Leon received his J.D. from The John Marshall Law School in 1984, receiving the Bureau of National Affairs Award for highest third year grades, and the American Jurisprudence Award from Northern Illinois University College of Law. He received his B.A. in political science from Northeastern University in 1979. Fluent in Spanish, he is active in various



community projects, including the ASPIRA Mentoring program for teens and young adults, and the Motivational Youth Program at Roberto Clemente High School.



Congratulations to **Sandra Ramos** who was sworn in as a Circuit Court of Cook County Judge. The ceremony took place on December 6, 2010. Sandra Ramos is the first Latina to be elected county-wide.



Congratulations to **David Herrera** on his recent promotion. David is a Cook County State's Attorney assigned to the Criminal Courthouse located at 26th and California. David is assigned to a felony trial courtroom. He is a graduate from the University of Illinois College of Law.

*****HLAI invites notices of member's achievements. Please submit them to Claudia Castro at cecklc2003@yahoo.com*****

December Overview

On December 2nd, HLAI along with SHPE, NSHMBA, ALPFA, PRBA, NHSN and HACE held a joint holiday party at Vision nightclub. Fun was had by all.



HLAI along with HLAI Charities, LAPA, PRBA and NHPA held its annual food drive to benefit the **St. Aloysius Food Pantry** located at 1406 N. Washtenaw, Chicago, IL. The event took place on December 18, 2010. Members from the various organization meet early in the morning at ALDI food store and purchased food for the pantry. Members then went to the pantry to help assemble the food baskets. This year thanks to the generous contributions from the sponsoring organization along with **Kevin Gallardo, David Herrera, Judge Carmen Aguilar, Mercedes Luque-Rosales, Rosa Maria Siva, David Will, Yesnia Villasenor-Rodriguez and various attorneys from the Cook County State's Attorneys Office** we were able to feed 50 families this holiday season.

A special thanks goes out to **David Herrera** for coordinating this event. HLAI would also like to thank the following members for coming out and helping assemble the food baskets: **Mercy Rosales-Luque and her mother, Judge Carmen Aguilar and her husband and children, David Will and his daughter, Yesnia Villasenor- Rodriguez and her son, Kevin Gallardo, Paul Joyce, David Badillo, Yolanda Delgado, Felix Gonzalez and Rosa Maria Silva.**





LaSalle, Chicago, IL, Registration 2:45-3 pm, Panel presentation 3-4 pm, Reception 4-6 pm. A social will take place at night, Salsa dancing location and time to be announced. Please RSVP by January 14, 2011 to lozo246@gmail.com

Join Your Colleagues from the Bench and the Bar for a Conversation with Justice Sonia Sotomayor Supreme Court of the United States

Monday, January 31, 2011 • The Standard Club • 320 S. Plymouth Court
4:00 p.m. Reception with Hors d'oeuvres and Open Bar (2nd Fl.)
5:15 p.m. Conversation with Hon. Ann Claire Williams (5th Fl.) \$50 per person
For reservations, contact Tamra Drees, CBA Events Coordinator, at tdrees@chicagobar.org or 312-554-2057.

Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois is a co-sponsor.

Centennial Celebration of the Chicago Alumni Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International Chicago Alumni Chapter

Please Join Us and the Fraternity's International Executive Board As We Celebrate Our Chapter's 100th Year Anniversary Saturday, **January 15, 2011**
Reception: 6 p.m. Dinner and Program: 7 p.m.
Hotel InterContinental Chicago Magnificent Mile
505 North Michigan Avenue
Recipient of the 2011 Justice Mary Ann G. McMorrow Distinguished Service to the Profession Award
Hon. James F. Holderman, *Chief Judge, United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois*
Special Centennial Award for Outstanding Efforts in Bringing Integrity, Compassion, Courage, Innovation and Diversity to the Circuit Court of Cook County
Hon. Timothy C. Evans, *Chief Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County*

Upcoming Events/Save the Dates! January Events

Please join the **Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois Charities** for a night of laughs. "Law and Disorder with Comedian Elizardi Castro" at the Center for the Performing Arts, 777 N. Green Street **Friday, January 14th**, Doors open at 6 pm for reception, cash bar, Show 7:30 p.m. \$20/ticket proceeds to fund JD Mentors program and other philanthropic endeavors. To purchase tickets please contact mdiaz@sanchezdh.com or rosasilva.73@hotmail.com

The Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois, Joint Latino Law School Committees, and Quarles and Brady Invite you all to attend their Complimentary "How to Effectively Network" program on **Saturday, January 22, 2011**, Quarles & Brady, 300 North

Volunteer/Misc. Opportunities



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



Employment Opportunities

Illinois Legal Aid Online

Job Description: Spanish Content & Outreach Coordinator

Description:

The Spanish Content and Outreach Coordinator position will be initially funded for two years through a Legal Services Corporation Technology Initiative Grant (TIG) to the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago (LAF). Illinois Legal Aid Online has contracted with LAF to provide the services set out in that grant, and this position will be housed at ILAO.

The Spanish Content and Outreach Coordinator will manage the project to convert Illinois' statewide legal information website, IllinoisLegalAid.org, to Spanish. She/he will manage the translation of comprehensive Spanish-language legal content published and maintained on that website. The Coordinator will also conduct extensive community outreach and training to Spanish-language constituents, including organizations that serve Spanish-speaking Illinois residents and that offer public internet access in Latino neighborhoods. The Coordinator reports to ILAO's Program Director. The salary range for this position is \$51,500-\$55,000, depending upon experience.

Major Responsibilities:

- Work with the three LSC-funded legal services programs in Illinois (LAF, Prairie State Legal Services, and Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation) to identify outreach targets and develop comprehensive plans to educate constituents about the Spanish-language version of Illinois' statewide legal information website, IllinoisLegalAid.org
- Engage the assistance of legal-aid partners, bar associations, and courts in Spanish content planning, contribution and prioritization
- Translate, review, edit, and update online legal self-help materials for lower-income, Spanish-speaking Illinois residents
- Cultivate relationships within Spanish-speaking communities, public-service organizations and other groups to promote use of the Spanish-language website
- Work with LAF to develop and launch a media campaign to promote the Spanish-language website
- Work with LAF to develop and implement evaluation plans to determine the effectiveness of the website and outreach efforts

Other Responsibilities:

- Conduct website presentations and training classes for large and small groups

- Develop and maintain outreach and marketing materials for various constituencies including media outlets, churches, educators and social service organizations
- Develop and maintain training and education materials for users of the Spanish-language website
- Work with ILAO staff to improve the Spanish-language resources based on feedback from website users and constituents
- Execute content quality assurance standards and programs
- Develop and maintain online project workspace
- Participate in relevant groups and committees related to law and technology, and accessibility for limited English proficient (LEP) clients
- Provide necessary reports, data, and documentation to LAF
- Participate in staff meetings and other administrative meetings
- Other responsibilities as assigned

Qualifications:

- Fluent in written and oral Spanish
- Law degree (J.D.); Illinois legal aid practice experience preferred
- Demonstrated ability to translate written English into written Spanish
- Demonstrated ability to work well with people and build collaborations
- Excellent oral presentation and written communication skills in both English and Spanish, with the ability to tailor presentations and materials to appropriate audience
- Experience implementing outreach and communication plans, writing informational and promotional materials, and conducting/facilitating meetings
- Experience developing and implementing program evaluation plans
- Ability to effectively manage multiple projects, set priorities, and meet all deadlines
- Superior organizational skills and attention to detail
- Willingness and ability to travel throughout Illinois, and a valid drivers license (do not need to own a car)
- Strong computer skills including proficiency in using the Internet and Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, Power Point)
- Able to work with diverse populations
- Enthusiasm for the use of technology in the delivery of legal services
- Works well on a team and willing to pitch in however needed to accomplish the goals of the organization
- Demonstrated commitment to Illinois Legal Aid Online's mission and goals (see <http://www.illinoislegalaidonline.org/index.php?mission>)

To Apply:



Successful candidates will explain in a detailed cover letter how their qualifications and experience match the position description and requirements. Email your resume and cover letter, with salary requirements to: Teri Ross, Program Director, Illinois Legal Aid Online, tross@illinoislegalaid.org.

Job Title: **Program Analyst (Emergency Response Planner) GS-0343-9** Department: **Department Of Homeland Security** Agency: **Federal Emergency Management Agency** Job Announcement Number: **MG2010-R5-10-61-420670-WWH-**

Thursday, December 23, 2010 to Thursday, January 06, 2011

OPEN PERIOD:

1 vacancy - Chicago Metro area, IL

Our career opportunities feature competitive starting salaries and the potential for performance-based increases, flexible hours, and the ability to achieve and maintain a balanced lifestyle. You will enjoy a range of comprehensive and competitive employment benefits that, among others, include: a fully portable Thrift Savings Plan, similar to a 401(k); personal leave days for vacation, illness, and family care; ten paid holidays per year; flexible work schedules; defined benefit retirement plan; a wide choice of health insurance programs, non-taxable Flexible Spending Accounts for out-of-pocket medical or dependent care expenses; life and long-term care insurance; transportation subsidies; and Employee Assistance Programs. Other benefits that may be available include: a uniform allowance; health and wellness programs; fitness centers; and telework. For more information on federal benefits, please visit www.usajobs.gov/jobextrainfo.asp#FEHB.

HOW TO APPLY:

To apply for this position, you must provide a complete Application Package which includes:

1. Your Résumé
2. A complete Occupational Questionnaire
3. Additional Required Documents (see Required Documents section below)

The complete Application Package must be submitted by 11:59 PM (EST) on Thursday, January 06, 2011.

To begin the process, click the **Apply Online** button to create an account or log in to your existing USAJOBS account. Please ensure you click the **Apply for this position now!** button at the end of the process. You will be redirected to **Application Manager**, <https://applicationmanager.gov/>, to complete your application package. Follow the prompts to complete the occupational questionnaire. Please ensure you click the Submit My Answers button at the end of the process.

Note: To check the status of your application or return to a previous or

incomplete application, log into your USAJOBS account, select *Application Status*, and click on the *more information* link under the application status for this position.

To fax supporting documents you are unable to upload, complete this cover page <http://staffing.opm.gov/pdf/usascover.pdf> using the following Vacancy ID MG420670. Fax your documents to **1-478-757-3144**.

Job Title: Marketing Specialist, GS-301-13 Department: US General Services Administration Agency: Federal Acquisition Service Sub Agency: General Services Administration Job Announcement Number: 1105030CODE

Tuesday, December 21, 2010 to Tuesday, January 04, 2011

OPEN PERIOD:

1 vacancy - Chicago Metro Area, IL

DUTY LOCATIONS:

JOB SUMMARY:

You may have heard **GSA** called 'the government's landlord', but GSA is about more than just buildings....We're a vehicle management and acquisition service...a real estate manager...an IT solutions provider...a global supply chain manager...and more! GSA provides innovative solutions for Federal agencies that include products, services, workspace, and expertise to build a more high-performing, efficient, sustainable, and transparent government for the American people.

And, since our jobs are as diverse as the services we provide, GSA is a great place to start, build, and expand your career.

GSA has been repeatedly named by the Partnership for Public Service as one of the "Best Places to Work in the Federal Government".

As a Marketing Analyst, you will be an expert strategic advisor for the Federal Acquisition Service (FAS), Office of General Supplies Services (GSS), National Merchandising Planning and Communications Branch based in the Great Lakes Region. The center is responsible for planning, developing, directing, and executing the business development, communications, research and analysis, merchandising, and FAS Office of Customer Accounts and Research liaison activities for the Supply Operations (SO) business line of the GSS portfolio. In this role, you will provide critical analysis, which helps shape the direction of the Supply Operations business line and its operations.

This position is located in the Federal Acquisition Service, Office of General Supplies Services, National Merchandising Planning and Communications Branch, Chicago, IL.



HOW TO APPLY:

You must submit a complete application including any required documents prior to 11:59 pm Eastern Time on the closing date of the Announcement. Errors or omissions may result in your not being considered for this vacancy. For information on applying for a GSA vacancy, please visit [Applying for a GSA Job](#)

We will only consider applications submitted through the online process listed below unless an exception has been approved by a representative of the HR Office listed on this announcement. A description of the online process is provided below:

Select the "Apply Online" button. Log on to OPM's USAJOBS to access your existing resume or to create a new one. From your account, select which resume you wish to submit. You also have the option of attaching any required documents saved in your USAJOBS account. Click "Apply for this Position Now!" You will be redirected to GSA's automated system, GSAjobs. First time users will be asked to respond to "User Information" questions. If you are a return GSAjobs user, click the links on the left to review and update any necessary profile information before continuing on with the application process. You will be prompted to respond to vacancy specific questions regarding your qualifications and the knowledge, skills, abilities, and/or other competencies required to successfully perform this position.

Submit any required documents (see below). A "Vacancy Documents" page is automatically displayed by the GSAjobs system. Most documents become part of your permanent electronic file and you need to submit them only once unless you wish to update. You can view the Description column next to each form to determine if a previously submitted document is on file. For each document you must submit, select one of the following options in the "Action" column: "Upload" - Using the Document Manager, upload document (.gif, .jpeg, .png, .rtf, .pdf, and .doc format only) directly from your computer;"USAJOBS" - Using the Document Manager, download a document you previously attached from your USAJOBS account for this vacancy. "FAX" - Print the Fax Cover Sheet, then fax cover sheet and document(s) to the listed phone number. We strongly recommend you read the "Fax Instructions" provided on the Document Manager page prior to printing the Fax Cover Sheet and faxing your information.

Note: If you cannot complete any part of the application process listed above, contact the Human Resources Office/representative listed on the announcement prior to the announcement deadline for instructions on how to proceed. Be sure to receive prior HR approval to deviate from these instructions so that your application will be considered.

Job Title: **Intelligence Research Specialist**

Department: **Department Of Justice**

Agency: **U.S. Marshals Service**

Job Announcement Number: **CK388521JC**

Thursday, December 23, 2010 to Thursday, January 13, 2011

OPEN PERIOD:

GS-0132-12/13

SERIES &
GRADE:

1 vacancy - Chicago Metro area, IL; 1 vacancy - Tampa, FL; 1 vacancy - Birmingham, AL

DUTY
LOCATIONS:

JOB SUMMARY:

The United States Marshals Service is the nation's oldest and most versatile federal law enforcement agency. The missions of the Service include protection of the judiciary, court security, witness security, asset seizure and forfeiture, apprehension of fugitives, prisoner transportation and custody.

Who May Apply: You may apply as an Open Competitive candidate if you are a US Citizen. You may apply as a Merit Promotion candidate if you are a current or former career/career conditional Federal employee with competitive status. Do you want to make a difference in helping to protect our nation? Are you interested in supporting the criminal justice system? Are you interested in applying your knowledge of cellular intercept analysis to provide support for fugitive investigations? These positions are located in the Investigative Operations Division in Chicago, IL, Birmingham, AL and Tampa, FL. Relocation expenses may be authorized for Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System (JPATS) employees affected by the ICE disengagement.

HOW TO APPLY: To apply for this position, you must provide a complete Application Package which includes:

1. Your **Resume**
2. A complete **Assessment Questionnaire**
3. Other **supporting documents:**
 - Veterans Preference Documentation, if applicable
 - College transcript(s), if qualifying based on education
 - SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action (if applying as a status candidate with current or former Federal service)

To begin the process, click the Apply Online button to create an account or log in to your existing USAJOBS account. Follow the prompts to complete the assessment questionnaire. Please ensure you click the Submit My Answers button at the end of the process.

Note: To return to a previously Saved or Incomplete application you may use the following link: <https://applicationmanager.gov/>.

To fax supporting documents you are unable to upload, complete this



cover page <http://staffing.opm.gov/pdf/usascover.pdf> using the following Vacancy ID CK388521. Fax your documents to 1-478-757-3144.

Job Title: Human Resources Specialist

Agency: Office Of Personnel Management

Job Announcement Number: 11-116-MYP

OPEN PERIOD: Wednesday, December 22, 2010 to Tuesday,
January 04, 2011

SERIES &
GRADE: GS-0201-11/12

DUTY
LOCATIONS: Few vacancies - Chicago Metro area, IL

JOB SUMMARY: Vacancy Identification Number: WP418668 This position is located with OPM's Merit System Audit and Compliance, Chicago Oversight Group with responsibility for ensuring agency adherence to merit system principles and Human Resources Management compliance and accountability; and supporting and informing agencies' programmatic efforts in Human Resources.

HOW TO APPLY All applications must be submitted by: Tuesday, January 04, 2011

To begin click the Apply Online button and follow the prompts to register, answer a few questions, and submit all required documents. To return to your saved application, log in to your USAJOBS account

at <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/> and click on "Application Status".

Click on the position title, and then select Apply Online to continue.

Membership Opportunities

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

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

Business Name: HLA I Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois

Business ExtrAA Account Number: 787505

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