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Issue: 2



## Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI): cultivating a lifelong commitment to public interest law

### Greetings!

For thirty years, the Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) has cultivated a lifelong commitment to public interest law by creating opportunities for law students and lawyers to provide public interest and pro bono work in Illinois. We hope you will find this e-newsletter informative and we appreciate your involvement in and support of PILI.

Yours truly,  
[The Staff of the Public Interest Law Initiative](#)

## PILI News

### PILI Working to Assist Deferred and Displaced Attorneys at Public Interest Law Organizations

In response to difficult economic times, PILI and others, including The Chicago Bar Foundation, have been exploring the possibility of placing law firm attorneys and deferred incoming associates in extended fellowship or rotations programs at public interest law organizations. With firms now introducing or expanding the fellowship model, PILI will serve in a "brokering function" between public interest law organizations and law firms regarding these various longer-term pro bono commitments; there are many similarities between our existing summer fellowship model and these new longer-term models, particularly the deferrals, which may become increasingly common. [Read more...](#)

## PILI Internship & Fellowship Programs

PILI Interns (first or second year law students) and PILI Fellows (recent law school graduates) work at, and learn about, legal institutions serving the public interest. Below is the latest news about PILI's Internship and Fellowship Programs. Visit PILI's website to learn more about the [Internship](#) and [Fellowship](#) Programs.

### 2009 is a Record Year for PILI's Summer Internship Program

This year, PILI has seen a record increase in applications for its Summer Internship Program. Total individual applicants rose 14.5%, the number of nationwide law schools represented by the applicants rose 30% and the total number of applications submitted to participating agencies rose 10%.

### Cook County Public Guardian to Address Summer 2009 Interns and Fellows at Kick-off of Summer Educational Series

On June 3, 2009, Cook County Public Guardian, Robert F. Harris, will be the guest speaker at the kick-off luncheon for PILI's Summer Educational Series for Interns and Fellows. During the program entitled "Protecting Children and the Disabled," Mr. Harris will speak about the work of the Cook County Public Guardian and his path to his career in public interest law. [Read more...](#)

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[New Illinois Supreme Court Rule Permits Retired, Inactive and Corporate Attorneys to Perform Pro Bono Work](#)

[Illinois Supreme Court Rule 756\(j\) Pro Bono Authorization Forms](#)

[Other Useful Links](#)

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## PILI Alumni Program

In 2007, PILI established an Alumni Program for its over 3,000 former PILI Interns and Fellows in an effort to ensure their lifelong commitment to public interest law. Below is the latest news about PILI's Alumni Program. Visit PILI's website to learn more about its [Alumni Program](#).

### Alumni Program on "The Path to a Career in the Public Interest Law Sector"

The first alumni program and reception of 2009 will be hosted by Howrey LLP (321 N. Clark Street) from 5:30 to 7:30 on Tuesday, April 28th. A panel of PILI alumni will describe their path to their career in public interest law. Topics to be covered during the discussion will be: path to the judiciary, working for a legal service agency, government service, and living on a public interest law salary, e.g. LRAP, government loan forgiveness programs. [Read more...](#)

### Alumni Spotlight: 2007 PILI Fellow, Patrick Gallagher



As a PILI Fellow at [Health and Disability Advocates](#), Patrick Gallagher assisted with HDA's programs to improve healthcare access and services for children, people with disabilities, and low-income adults. Now, an attorney with Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell, Patrick is also currently serving on the PILI Board of Directors as a Fellow representative. [Read more...](#)

### Alumni Spotlight: 2007 & 2008 PILI Intern, Ruth Lopez

Ruth Lopez was a "Double PILI," as a 2007 spring and summer PILI Intern at the [Chicago Legal Clinic](#) and as a 2008 summer PILI Intern at the [Legal Assistance Foundation](#) in their Westside neighborhood office. Since the summer of 2008, Ruth has focused on completing her final year of law school at Chicago-Kent Law School, working with LAF as a law clerk and, currently serving on the PILI Board of Directors as an Intern representative. [Read more...](#)



## PILI Pro Bono Program

PILI's Pro Bono Initiative is your pro bono resource for establishing or enhancing a law firm or corporate pro bono program in Illinois. PILI also works with legal aid and public interest law organizations to promote and enhance their pro bono opportunities. Below is the latest news about PILI's Pro Bono Initiative. Visit PILI's website to learn more about [PILI's Pro Bono Initiative](#).

### PILI to Host Corporate Pro Bono Roundtable

The first 2009 Corporate Pro Bono Roundtable will be held on Wednesday, April 29th from 12:00 until 1:30 at United Air Lines, in Chicago for corporate pro bono leaders from across Illinois. Those attending in-person will be provided lunch. Corporate pro bono leaders will also be able to participate by phone. Advance registration is required. [Read more.](#)

### Join Us for PILI's Annual "Celebrating Pro Bono" Reception

On Thursday, June 11, 2009 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., PILI will host its Annual "Celebrating Pro Bono" Reception at the Harold Washington Library Center Winter Garden Room. This year's reception will include informal conversation, networking, appetizers and refreshments. Please join your colleagues from law firms, corporations, legal aid agencies and law schools to celebrate pro bono relationships and successes. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. [Read more...](#)

### Pro Bono Spotlight

Jenner & Block continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to pro bono service. 100% of Jenner & Block associates and approximately two-thirds of partners devoted at least 20 hours to pro bono work in each of the past two years. In 2008, the Firm's attorneys contributed over 70,000 hours to pro bono service, and The American Lawyer recognized Jenner & Block as the #1 law firm in the country for pro bono service on its annual "Pro Bono Honor Roll." Jenner & Block does not concentrate its pro bono work in pre-selected areas, but rather performs a wide range of pro bono work driven by the interests of its lawyers. [Read more...](#)

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