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

### Greetings!

Since its founding in 1977, PILI has cultivated a lifelong commitment to public interest law by creating opportunities for law students and attorneys 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 Organizing Program on Public Interest Law Placements for Law Students

Sponsored by PILI, Phi Alpha Delta and the Chicago Area Law School Consortium, this program is for Chicago area law students and recent graduates who are interested in learning more about placements as volunteers, interns or externs, or fellows at public interest law organizations. This complimentary program will be from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, October 17, 2009. [Read more...](#)

### PILI to Celebrate Service at 2009 Annual Awards Luncheon

On Thursday, December 3rd, more than 450 members of the legal community will gather to celebrate the best aspects of the profession at the Public Interest Law Initiative's Annual Awards Luncheon. This event provides a forum to recognize those performing remarkable public interest and pro bono work. The Luncheon's theme is "Celebrating Service: The Legal Profession at its Best," and features several awards to acknowledge important public interest legal work. The recipients of this year's awards are:

- **Distinguished Public Service Award:** *Thomas F. Geraghty*, Associate Dean for Clinical Education at Northwestern University School of Law;
- **Distinguished Alumni Awards:** *Jesus Perez* of Jesus Perez & Associates and *Elizabeth Gibbons Lewis* of McDermott Will & Emery LLP; and
- the **Pro Bono Initiative Award:** *Kirkland & Ellis LLP*.

This year's Luncheon will be held in the International Ballroom at the Fairmont Hotel. To learn more about the Luncheon or sponsorship opportunities, contact PILI's Executive Director, Susan Curry, at [scurry@pili-law.org](mailto:scurry@pili-law.org) or 312-832-5128. Tickets for this event may also be purchased from our website. [Read more...](#)

### PILI Releases New Informational Brochure

PILI recently developed a new brochure to promote our organization and its programs. E-mail Michael Bergmann at [mbergmann@pili-law.org](mailto:mbergmann@pili-law.org) to receive a paper copy. Or, visit our website to view the brochure. [Read more...](#)

### PILI is on Linked In and Facebook

PILI has established a group on LinkedIn with a special subgroup for PILI Alumni. PILI has also created a fan page on Facebook. Show

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### Additional Helpful Links

[IllinoisProBono.org](#)

[More About the New IL Supreme Court Pro Bono Reporting Requirement](#)

[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 is on LinkedIn & Facebook. Join us!



your support for PILI by joining our group on LinkedIn and becoming a fan of our page on Facebook. This is also a great way to stay connected with other PILI supporters and PILI Alumni. Follow the links in the right sidebar of this newsletter.



## PILI Law Student Internship & Graduate Fellowship Programs

PILI Interns (first or second year law students) and PILI Fellows (recent law school graduates) work in and learn about public interest law, and begin what PILI hopes is a lifelong commitment to public interest law and pro bono work. 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.

### PILI Spring and Summer 2010 Law Student Internship Application Process Opening Soon

Each summer, PILI funds dozens of full-time summer internships (400-hours) for first and second-year law students from across the country to work at public interest law agencies in the Chicago area. PILI also offers a limited number of 200-hour school-year internships for Chicago area law students. PILI has an online application process for its Law Student Internship Program. Applicants for PILI's Law Student Internship Program for the Spring Semester 2010 may begin applying as of November 1, 2009 and applicants are strongly advised to apply no later than December 31, 2009. For the summer 2010 Law Student Internship Program, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis beginning December 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010. [Read more...](#)

## PILI Alumni Program

Today, over 3,000 law students and graduates have participated in PILI's Internship and Fellowship Programs. The Alumni Program maintains the connection between these public interest lawyers, PILI and the public interest law community. Below is the latest news about PILI's Alumni Program. Visit PILI's website to learn more about its [Alumni Program](#).

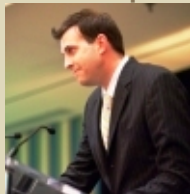
### PILI Alumni Program and Reception

On Wednesday, November 18, 2009, PILI will host its third alumni programming event of the year at Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP. Beginning at 5:30, there will be a program entitled "Lawyer to Leader: Volunteer Management Skills for the Public Interest Law Attorney." The program will be followed by an informal networking reception from 6:30 to 7:30. Advance registration is required by e-mailing us at [rsvp@pili-law.org](mailto:rsvp@pili-law.org). [Read more...](#)

### Get Involved in PILI's Alumni Program and Join an Alumni Project Team

PILI is always looking for former Interns and Fellows to work with us on our Alumni Program. In addition to the Alumni Circle, the program's leadership group, there are also several project teams on which we would welcome your involvement. Our current teams include, Mentoring, Programming and Development. [Read more...](#)

### Alumni Spotlight: 2003 PILI Fellow, Andrew Vail



Sponsored by Jenner & Block where he is now an Associate, Andrew was a PILI Fellow at the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago during the summer of 2003. Andrew has truly maintained his commitment to public interest law since completing his Fellowship, dedicating over 1,000 hours to pro bono matters in the last year alone. His pro bono matters have spanned a wide range of issues, from wrongful convictions, Guantanamo, death row representation, Section 1983 and voting rights cases - just to name a few. [Read more...](#)

### Alumni Spotlight: 2005 PILI Intern, Nichole Cain

PILI Alumni, Nichole Cain, was a 2005 PILI Intern at the Sargent Shriver Center for Poverty Law. At that time, her work, and that of the Shriver Center, was focused heavily on housing issues, as well as PayDay loan legislation. After graduating from law school,

Nichole joined the law firm of Pinzur, Cohen & Kerr, where she was an associate until 2008, when she joined the Illinois Department of Human Rights. [Read more...](#)



## PILI Pro Bono Initiative Program

Through its Pro Bono Initiative, PILI works collaboratively with law firms, corporations, public interest law agencies and law schools to create and promote work environments, programs and opportunities that help new associates and seasoned attorneys actualize their commitment to pro bono work. 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 Developing Pro Bono Pairing and Mentoring Matching System With Illinois Legal Aid Online**

The Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) is developing the Pro Bono Pairing and Mentoring System in partnership with Illinois Legal Aid Online (ILAO). The Pro Bono Pairing and Mentoring Matching System will be part of the [www.IllinoisProBono.org](http://www.IllinoisProBono.org) website and its purpose will be twofold. The first purpose will be to match new pro bono practitioners with experienced pro bono practitioners who will serve as pro bono mentors. The second purpose will be to pair volunteers with one another to work on pro bono matters together, thus increasing the number of people doing pro bono as well as the number of clients served through pro bono. Users will include law students, paralegals, legal secretaries and attorneys from around the state of Illinois handling pro bono matters through the state's public interest law organizations. We anticipate launching this new feature by June 2010. If you would like more information about this effort, please contact Michael Bergmann at 312-832-5129 or [mbergmann@pili-law.org](mailto:mbergmann@pili-law.org).

### **PILI to Co-sponsor 16th Annual CBA Young Lawyers Section Pro Bono and Community Service Fair**

The 16th Annual Chicago Bar Association Young Lawyers Section Pro Bono and Community will be hosted by Kirkland & Ellis at their new riverfront offices. The Fair is being held from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 29th as part of the 2009 CBA/CBF Pro Bono Week celebration. [Click here for additional details about the Pro Bono and Community Service Fair and other activities during Pro Bono Week.](#)

### **PILI Corporate Pro Bono Roundtable**

PILI will convene the second Corporate Pro Bono Roundtable of the year from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2009, hosted by GE Capital Americas Legal in Rosemont, IL. Corporate pro bono leaders from around the state are invited to attend in person or by phone. Invitations will also be e-mailed to corporate pro bono leaders. Advance registration is required. [Read more...](#)

### **Illinois Supreme Court Adopts New Rule on Limited Scope Representation**

On July 1, 2009, the Illinois Supreme Court adopted Rule 6.5, which takes effect on January 1, 2010. This new Rule allows for limited scope representation when a lawyer who, under the auspices of a program sponsored by a nonprofit organization or court, provides short-term limited legal services to a client without expectation by either the lawyer or the client that the lawyer will provide continuing representation in the matter. While an attorney-client relationship is still created in these instances, the Rules regarding conflicts of interest are relaxed to accommodate the provision of legal services on a limited basis through means such as advice clinics, assistance with the completion of legal forms and hotline advice programs. [Read more...](#)

### **Pro Bono Spotlight: Accenture**

A deep commitment to corporate citizenship is truly engrained in the culture of Accenture's Legal Group. In 2004, Accenture established the Corporate Citizenship Committee to impress upon Accenture Legal professionals that their leadership recognized the importance of, and encouraged participation in, pro bono and other community service activities. During 2007 and 2008, Accenture employees

contributed more than 120,000 hours of pro bono services to not-for-profit organizations. The pro bono activities that Accenture's Legal professionals have participated in range from performing legal research and writing for pro bono cases, to participating in day-long pro bono community service activities, to traveling to Africa for two weeks to teach a negotiations class at an Ethiopian law school. [Read more...](#)



## Extended Placement Program

PILI encourages law firms to provide the opportunity for firm attorneys - whether new associates or seasoned attorneys - to be placed at a public interest law organization for an extended period of time in a rotation or fellowship program. PILI provides assistance to firms in developing such programs and in identifying public interest law organizations to host their attorneys. Below is the latest news about PILI's Extended Placement Program. Visit PILI's website to learn more about [PILI's Extended Placement Program](#).

### Extended Placement Update

In Illinois, there have been approximately 40 extended public interest law placements. These individuals come from law firms around the country and have had their start date deferred, their employment offer revoked, been laid-off, or opted to participate in their firm's sabbatical program. Information for candidates, law firms and agencies is available on our website. PILI is also coordinating with The Chicago Bar Foundation to develop some trainings for those serving in these placements, including a program on October 21st at noon. [Read more...](#)

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