



**ILLINOIS STATE  
BAR ASSOCIATION**

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## **Glen Carbon Resident to Receive Award from State Bar**

Elizabeth Nicole “Nikki” Wisley Carrion, a resident of **Glen Carbon**, will receive the Young Lawyer of the Year Award from the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) at the organization’s 133<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting in Fontana, Wis., on Friday, June 26. The ISBA selects two outstanding young lawyers each year for the award.

Carrion, a graduate of DePaul University College of Law, in Chicago, is an associate at Law Offices of Thomas, Mottaz and Eastman, in Alton. She was nominated by Chicago attorney Sandra Crawford on behalf of the ISBA’s Standing Committee on Women and the Law.

Before joining the firm, she was a staff attorney for Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation from 2002 to 2005, providing full legal representation to domestic violence victims and HIV-positive clients.

An active member of three ISBA committees, Carrion is secretary of the Committee on Delivery of Legal Services and the author of Pro Bono Spotlight columns that have been published in the *ISBA Bar News*.

She also is a member of the Committee on Women and the Law and the Committee on Legal Education, Admission and Competence.

The current president of the Immigration Project in Granite City and a board member since 2004, Carrion serves on the Pro Bono Committee and Family Law Committee of the Madison County Bar Association.

She has written several articles for ISBA newsletters and has participated in Law Ed seminars. She has been a presenter in legal advocacy training programs of the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

“Nikki is considered among her peers as a ‘go-to-person’ and an expert in the arena of domestic violence litigation and appeals,” Crawford wrote in her award nomination letter.

“She is a dedicated family person. She is a legal scholar and educator. She is a passionate advocate for the rights of her clients and others in her community who may not have a voice, including those who face a language barrier,” said Crawford, who is secretary of the Committee on Women and the Law.

Dean Peter C. Alexander of the Southern Illinois University School of Law, who serves with Carrion on the Legal Education Committee, added that she “cares very deeply about the issues on which we work and she is a tireless volunteer, who is very involved in many important causes.”

The 35,000-member ISBA, with offices in Springfield and Chicago, provides professional services to Illinois lawyers, and education and services to the public.

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