



Bench & Bar

The Mission of the [ISBA Bench & Bar Section](#):

To forge a spirit of cooperation, collegiality and exchange among state and federal judges and the practicing bar, and to enhance the court system, the administration of justice for the public, and the relationship between judges and lawyers.

General:

- ◆ Section fees are \$25 per year.
- ◆ To join, go to www.isba.org/sections

[Continuing Legal Education](#)

The Section sponsored or co-sponsored three programs. These include:

- ◆ **2016 Civility – CHICAGO & LIVE WEBCAST** (Feb. 10, 2016)
- ◆ **Co-Sponsor: 3rd Annual Elder Law Bootcamp** (April 21-22, 2016)
- ◆ **Education for Attorney Appointed to Represent Children** (June 2-3, 2016)

Section members also receive discounts on section-sponsored CLE programs.

[Legislation](#)

The Section Council reviews proposed legislation that may affect their members' practice area. Highlights of the most recent legislative session include:

1. Number of bills reviewed: 27
2. Significant legislation:
 - a. House Bill 6109 - IDVA electronic filing pilot program
 - b. House Bill 4603 - Counties Code
 - c. House Bill 5003 - Veterans courts

[Other](#)

- ◆ [The Bench & Bar Law Discussion List](#) allows section members to pose questions and share information with fellow section members from around the state.

[Newsletters](#)

Delivered electronically unless otherwise requested. During 2015-16 the Section published nine newsletters. Articles include:

- ◆ Abraham Lincoln's prayer for judges (June 2016)
- ◆ Alcohol and mental health problems demand action (May 2016)
- ◆ The ambiguity of intent in the tort of battery (July 2015)
- ◆ A cautionary tale in criminal cases (Oct. 2015)
- ◆ Court erred in admitting text messages (Sept. 2015)
- ◆ Critical changes in child-related domestic relations law (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ For Fourth Amendment purposes, the expectation of privacy extends outside the front door of an apartment into the adjacent common area (Apr. 2016)
- ◆ The future or a folly? Limited license legal technicians (Oct. 2015)
- ◆ Hon. Louis Garippo—"A great Judge, but a greater man" (June 2016)
- ◆ Impressions from the Bench: Litigating with pro se parties (Oct. 2015)
- ◆ Jorge Ortiz – New Lake County Chief Judge (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ Joseph Tybor, 1947-2015 (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ Judge Abraham Lincoln: A short account of a short 'judicial' career (June 2016)
- ◆ Judge Paul Biebel shaped criminal court (July 2015)
- ◆ Judges should not say "expert" in front of the jury (May 2016)
- ◆ Justice Laura Liu: A life lived with grace and gratitude (May 2016)
- ◆ Justice on the move (Feb. 2016)
- ◆ Lawyers can benefit from judicial heuristics (June 2016)
- ◆ Making the most of 1L summer (Jan. 2016)
- ◆ The many faces of e-filing (May 2016)
- ◆ McHenry County Circuit Court moves away from paper (May 2016)
- ◆ Pennsylvania judge takes a bold stand against unprofessional conduct (Sept. 2015)
- ◆ A person with a disability is not a disabled person (Sept. 2015)
- ◆ Prisoner litigation in Illinois: A fine balance—Can the courts respect a prisoner's right to sue while maintaining judicial efficiency? (Oct. 2015)
- ◆ Recent appointments and retirements (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ The relation back doctrine trumps the medical malpractice statute of repose (Apr. 2016)
- ◆ Remembering Justice Thomas Fitzgerald (June 2016)
- ◆ Remembering Tom Fitz (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ Restorative justice: A perspective from the bench (Jan. 2016)
- ◆ The status of the "test the waters" doctrine after the Illinois Supreme Court's decision in *Bowman v. Ottney* (Feb. 2016)
- ◆ Supreme Court Rule changes: 2015 end-of-year report (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ Supreme Court Rule changes: Mid-year report (July 2015)
- ◆ Supreme Court supports circuit court's discretion to deny a motion to substitute judge in refiled case (Jan. 2016)
- ◆ Time to rethink absolute prosecutorial discretion? (Sept. 2015)
- ◆ Understanding the new Illinois law requiring judges to advise foreign nationals of their right to consular notification (Apr. 2016)
- ◆ Why do pro bono work? (Sept. 2015)