



# Section on Human Rights

## The Mission of the [ISBA Human Rights Section](#):

The Human Rights Section Council's mission is to educate the people of Illinois about their human rights and the human rights of others; inform the people of Illinois about the impact on such rights by existing or proposed laws, and the policies and actions of governments or other actors; assist the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) membership in understanding and protecting the human rights of their clients; encourage solidarity between the Illinois bar and all members of the national and international legal profession as a means of strengthening human rights and the rule of law; advise the ISBA on issues related to human rights; and to promote the legal recognition and protection of human rights.

## General:

- ◆ Section fees are \$25 per year.
- ◆ To join, go to [www.isba.org/sections](http://www.isba.org/sections)

## [Continuing Legal Education](#)

The Section sponsored or co-sponsored four programs during the year:

- ◆ **Restorative Practices in Illinois: Mental Health Issues & Addiction** (Sept. 21, 2016)
- ◆ **Restorative Practices in Illinois: Civil & Criminal Cases** (Sept. 21, 2016)
- ◆ **Litigating Your First Illinois Human Rights Act Discrimination Case from A-Z** (May 23, 2017)
- ◆ **Transgender Students: Law and Practice** (May 24, 2017)

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: 20
2. Significant legislation:
  - a. House Bill 1785 - Vital Records Act.
  - b. House Resolution 422 – Executive Order 2017-02 – IDHR and HRC Merger Disapproval
  - c. Senate Bill 31 - Law Enforcement-Immigration

## Other

- ◆ [The ISBA Human Rights 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 2016-17 the Section published six newsletters. Articles include:

- ◆ Being locked up does not mean being locked out from medical care for serious medical needs which ARE protected by the eighth amendment right to be free from cruel and unusual punishment (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ Book review: *Rogue Justice: The Making of the Security State* by Karen J. Greenberg (Oct. 2016)
- ◆ Case summary: *Blumenthal v. Brewer* (Sept. 2016)
- ◆ Commentary on *Blumenthal v. Brewer* (Sept. 2016)
- ◆ Comments from the Chair (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ Comments from the Chair (Oct. 2016)
- ◆ Comments from the Chair (Mar. 2017)
- ◆ Did your mother ever tell you to wear clean underwear because... ? (Apr. 2017)
- ◆ *Hively v. Ivy Tech Community College*: A noble decision that is legally incorrect (June 2017)
- ◆ *Hively v. Ivy Tech*: Seventh Circuit holds that sexual orientation discrimination is a form of sex discrimination prohibited under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (June 2017)
- ◆ Human Rights Act Civil Penalties Increase (Mar. 2017)
- ◆ Human Trafficking Task Force Act (Sept. 2016)
- ◆ The Illinois Supreme Court denies property rights to an unmarried same-sex couple who could not get married – *Blumenthal v. Brewer*, 2016 IL 118781 (2016) (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ Illinois Commission on Human Rights to be consolidated into the Illinois Department of Human Rights (Apr. 2017)
- ◆ ISBA Human Rights Section Council Gertz awarded to Cindy Galway Buys (Oct. 2016)
- ◆ Justice delayed is justice denied (Apr. 2017)
- ◆ Justice denied (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ Message from the Chair (June 2017)
- ◆ Note from the Editor (Mar. 2017)
- ◆ Punishing Poverty: Part I (Mar. 2017)
- ◆ Punishing poverty: Part II (Apr. 2017)
- ◆ A short summary of *Ortiz v. Werner Enterprises, Inc.*, 2016 WL 4411434 (7th Cir. 2016) (Oct. 2016)