ABA Commission on Effective Criminal Sanctions

"Overcoming Legal Barriers to Reentry"

Spring Conference

April 30 - May 1, 2007
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph Street
Chicago, IL 60601

Co-Sponsors

NAACP

Chicago Metropolis 2020

Safer Foundation

ABA Criminal Justice Section

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- ***Issues in employing people with a criminal record***
- ***Should criminal records be publicly available?***
- ***The politics of reentry***

"Strong Reentry Programs Reduce Recidivism, and Make Our Communities Safer."

Monday, April 30

1:00 pm– 1:30 pm Registration

1:30 pm - 2:00 pm Opening Session

Issues in Employing People with Criminal Records

2:00 pm - 3:30 pm **The Employer's Perspective: What factors are important to employers when employing a person with a criminal record?**

Panelists:
Jonna Furlich, Division Chief, Illinois Department of Public Health
Kim David Gilmore, Bureau Chief, Human Resources of Cook County
Fred P. Keller, Chairman & CEO, Cascade Engineering
Demond Moore, Human Resource Manager, Embassy Suites Hotel
Dick Portillo, Owner, Portillo Restaurant Group
Josh Sharp, Government Relations, Illinois Press Association
Larry I. Willis, General Counsel, Transportation Trades Dept./AFL-CIO

Moderator: ***Diane Williams***, President & CEO, Safer Foundation

3:30 pm – 4:45 pm **The Employee's Perspective: What do people with criminal records need to assist them in obtaining employment opportunities?**

Panelists:
Walter Burnett, Alderman, City of Chicago
Juan Cruz, Pre-Apprenticeship Union
Darrell Damm, Labor Ready
Yalanda McFagdon, Second Chance Program, City of Memphis
Rochelle Perry, Safer Foundation
Chris Moore, Exodus Renewal Society

Moderator: ***Glen Martin***, Co-Director, Legal Action Center

5:00 pm **Key Note Address**
The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor, City of Chicago

Tuesday, May 1

9:00 am – 10:30

Should Criminal Records be Publicly Available? Balancing the public's reasonable right to information against government's interest in encouraging successful offender reentry

Panelists:

Barry LaCroix, Chair, Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board
Owen Greenspan, Director- Law & Policy, SEARCH
Jane Horvath, Chief Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer, U.S. Department of Justice
Charles Tobin, Partner, Holland & Knight
Kenneth Thompson II, General Counsel, LexisNexis
Sharon Dietrich, Managing Attorney, Community Legal Services of Philadelphia

Moderator: ***Stephen Saltzburg***, Professor of Law, GWU School of Law

10:30 am - 12:00

The Politics of Reentry: Encouraging elected officials to support reentry initiatives: Risks and rewards

Panelists:

The Honorable James R. Thompson, Partner, Winston & Strawn
The Honorable Willie Herenton, Mayor, City of Memphis
Patricia Caruso, Director, Michigan Department of Corrections
Deanne Benos, Assistant Director, Illinois Department of Corrections
Mark Earley, President & CEO, Prison Fellowship Ministries
Tari Renner, Professor of Political Science, Illinois Wesleyan University
Eric Zorn, Journalist, Chicago Tribune

Moderator: ***Angela Davis***, Professor of Law, American University School of Law

12:00 – 1:30 pm

LUNCH

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Break-out Sessions - "Talking to Each Other"
Topics: Developing a rational criminal records policy; Changing organizational culture; What works in community advocacy; Collateral consequences and the adversary system

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Report Back from Break Out Sessions

3:30 pm

Closing Remarks
Mark Earley, President & CEO, Prison Fellowship Ministries

Defending Liberty
Pursuing Justice

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For More Information, visit our website at www.abanet.org/cecs

REGISTRATION FORM

*Please Submit by **April 10, 2007***
Registration is Free!!!

Return to: ABA Criminal Justice Section, 740 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005 or fax to 202-662-1501. ATTN: Regina Ashmon

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Organization

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