



# Fifth Annual Leadership Council on Legal Diversity



## Fellows Alumni Conference

## Courageous Leadership

June 23-26, 2016  
Kirkland & Ellis LLP | Loews Chicago Hotel  
Chicago, Illinois

# Agenda

## Thursday, June 23, 2016

- 3:00 - 5:30 pm**  
McGuireWoods LLP  
**Community Service Project Benefitting the Albany Park Theater Project**  
Join Fellows at McGuireWoods LLP, located at 77 W. Wacker Drive, where Fellows will teach Albany Park Theater's high school students networking skills and lead them in a mock networking session. A shuttle will depart the Loews Chicago Hotel *promptly at 3:00 pm* for McGuireWoods. Transportation will also be provided back to the hotel *promptly at 5:30 pm*.
- 6:00 - 8:00 pm**  
Loews Chicago Hotel  
**Welcome Reception at the Loews Chicago Hotel**  
Reconnect with Fellows Alumni at the hotel's Streeterville Terrace.

## Friday, June 24, 2016

*Sessions hosted at Kirkland & Ellis LLP unless otherwise noted.*

- 6:30 - 7:15 AM**  
Loews Chicago Hotel  
**Yoga on Lakeview Lawn at the Loews Chicago Hotel** (Optional)  
*Led by Christine Marlewski, Co-Chair, Fifth Annual Fellows Alumni Conference Committee; Shareholder, GrayRobinson, P.A.; 2012 Fellow*
- Optional opportunity to relax and recharge before a full day of sessions.
- 7:45 - 8:15 AM**  
Loews Hotel Lobby  
**Shuttle Service from the Loews Chicago Hotel to Kirkland & Ellis LLP**  
Shuttles will depart promptly at 7:45 am and 8:15 am.
- 8:30 - 9:00 AM**  
Kirkland & Ellis LLP,  
6th Floor Conference  
Center  
**Breakfast & Welcome Remarks**  
*Christine Marlewski, Co-Chair, Fifth Annual Fellows Alumni Conference Committee; Shareholder, GrayRobinson, P.A.; and 2012 Fellow; and Christopher R. Mugica, Co-Chair, Fifth Annual Fellows Alumni Conference Committee; Partner, Jackson Walker LLP; and 2013 Fellow, kick off the conference.*
- 9:00 - 9:30 AM**  
6th Floor Conference  
Center  
**LCLD Fellows Alumni Business Meeting & Announcement of Incoming Executive Council**  
*Jason DeJonker, Chair, LCLD Fellows Alumni Executive Council (EC); Partner, Bryan Cave LLP; and 2013 Fellow; and Zohra Tejani, Immediate Past Chair, LCLD Fellows Alumni EC; Senior Attorney, Microsoft Corporation; and 2012 Fellow*
- 9:30 - 10:30 AM**  
6th Floor Conference  
Center  
**Career Progression and Diversity as a Business Strategy**  
*Tonit Calaway, Vice President, Human Resources, Harley-Davidson, Inc.; and President, The Harley-Davidson Foundation; Introduction by Leslie Davis, Partner, Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, and 2011 Fellow*
- Tonit Calaway shares advice about career progression and diversity as a business strategy from a Human Resources perspective.

## Friday, June 24, 2016 (Continued)

10:30 - 11:00 AM

### Networking Break

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

6th Floor Conference Center

### Understanding a Corporate Board

*Sara Hays, Managing Director, Co-Leader of North American Board Practice, Allegis Partners; and Kandace Watson, Partner, Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP, and 2013 Fellow*

Learn about the types of corporate boards, boardroom composition, and how they function; and the various ways lawyers can get into the boardroom.

12:00 - 1:30 PM

6th Floor Conference Center

### Lunch & Out of the Box Leadership: Fellows Alumni “TED Talks”

*Sarah Harris, General Counsel, Sikich LLP; LCLD Member and 2013 Fellow; Heather Hubbard, Life Coach & Business Strategist, The Language of Joy, and 2013 Fellow; Carlos A. Singer, Founding Partner, Huang Ybarra Singer & May LLP; LCLD Member and 2012 Fellow; and Vanessa Allen Sutherland, Chairperson & Board Member, U.S. Chemical Safety Board, and 2011 Fellow. Moderated by Bonnie Lau, Senior Managing Associate, Dentons US LLP, and 2013 Fellow*

The Fellows will share their success stories and how they used “Out of the Box Leadership” skills to accomplish their goals.

1:30 - 2:45 PM

6th Floor Conference Center

### American Injustice: Mercy, Humanity, and Making a Difference

*Keynote speech by Bryan Stevenson, an attorney, human rights activist, Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative, and author of Just Mercy. Introduction by Darwin Conner, Partner, Sullivan & Worcester LLP; 2013 Fellow*

Bryan Stevenson will discuss how America has the largest prison population in the world, and how the criminal justice system that puts the men, women, and children in these prisons is broken. Excessive punishment and abuse are widespread, and the collateral consequences are devastating lives and communities.

2:45 - 3:15 PM

### Networking Break

3:15 - 4:30 PM

6th Floor Conference Center

### Judicial Panel

*The Honorable Rubén Castillo, Chief Judge, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois; The Honorable Jesse G. Reyes, Appellate Judge, First District, Fifth Division, State of Illinois Appellate Court; The Honorable Ann Claire Williams, Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit; and The Honorable Diane P. Wood, Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Moderated by Reena Bajowala, Partner, Jenner & Block LLP; 2013 Fellow, and William Yu, Partner, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP; 2013 Fellow.*

The judges will discuss the impact of the amended Federal Rules of Practice and Procedures as of December 2015, in addition to diversity in their courtrooms.

## Friday, June 24, 2016 (Continued)

4:30 PM

### Meeting Conclusion

5:00 - 6:30 PM

Jenner & Block LLP

### Happy Hour Reception at Jenner & Block LLP

Jenner & Block is located at 353 N. Clark Street.

7:00 - 10:00 PM

Spiaggia Restaurant

### Group Networking Dinner at Spiaggia

*Presenting the Rick Palmore Award and Community Service Award*

Network with Fellows Alumni and enjoy dinner at Spiaggia restaurant, where the second annual Rick Palmore LCLD Fellows Alumni Leadership Award and Community Service Award will be presented. Spiaggia is located at 980 N. Michigan Ave., 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60611.

## Saturday, June 25, 2016

10:00 - 11:00 AM

Loews Chicago Hotel,  
Streeterville Bistro

### Coffee Chats at the Loews Chicago Hotel

Join Fellows Alumni to share best practices for everyday challenges related to your career and personal life. Share and learn what apps other Fellows use to make life simple, learn about new coping mechanisms for finding and keeping child care and elderly care, find out how your fellow Fellows stay fit and healthy, and much more!

12:30 - 2:30 PM

Bryan Cave LLP

### Fellows Alumni Executive Council Meeting at Bryan Cave LLP

Bryan Cave LLP is located at 161 N. Clark Street, Suite 4300, Chicago, IL 60601.

3:00 - 5:00 PM

Shoreline Sightseeing

### Group Networking Event: Chicago Architecture Boat Tour

Join Fellows Alumni for a Chicago Architecture Boat Tour, *which will depart promptly at 3:15 pm*. Meet at the Michigan Ave dock, located at 401 N. Michigan Ave., at the northeast corner of N. Michigan Ave. and the Chicago River (beside the Chicago Tribune Building).

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Various Locations

### Class Networking Receptions

Including the 2011 Fellows Class Five-Year Reunion.

7:00 - 9:30 PM

### Dine-Arounds

Pick your favorite spot in Chicago and connect with both new and old Fellows Alumni.

## Sunday, June 26, 2016

7:00 - 9:00 AM

Loews Chicago Hotel

### Farewell Breakfast at the Loews Chicago Hotel

Meet in the hotel restaurant, Rural Society, to grab a quick breakfast before heading home! Dutch treat.

*The LCLD Fellows Alumni Executive Council is pleased to present*

# Rick Palmore

## LCLD Fellows Alumni Award

HONORING

## Yvette Gatling and Kamran Khan

The Rick Palmore Award recognizes the outstanding achievements, commitment, and leadership of LCLD Fellows Alumni who have paved the way for and assisted with the advancement of their LCLD Fellows and Fellows Alumni.



Rick Palmore is the Founding Chair Emeritus of LCLD. It was Rick Palmore's combination of vision and hard work that was responsible for the founding of the organization. He continues to inspire his fellow Members to push the frontiers of diversity and inclusion for the legal profession.

*Yvette Gatling and Kamran Khan will be honored during the Group Networking Dinner at Spiaggia, June 24, 2016.*



*The LCLD Fellows Alumni Outreach Committee is pleased to present*

THE SECOND ANNUAL  
Community Service Award

Friday, June 24 | *at the Group Networking Dinner*

This award honors the Fellows class with the highest overall participation in the service project with the Albany Park Theater Project of Chicago. The winner is the class with the highest participation through financial donations and volunteering at the service project event.

ALBANY  
PARK  
THEATER  
PROJECT

The Fellows Alumni are committed to advancing diversity in the community through service projects including an annual food drive, the annual community service project at the Fellows Alumni Conference, and participation in an “adopt-an-organization” program to enable Fellows Alumni to personally volunteer throughout the year, by providing an online catalog of mentoring programs/opportunities, and organizing an annual fundraising event for a selected charity.

This year’s service project at the Fellows Alumni Conference allowed the Fellows Alumni to teach valuable networking skills to high school-aged children and participate in a mock networking session. Albany Park Theater Project’s mission states that they are a multiethnic, youth theater ensemble that inspires people to envision a more just and beautiful world. They are dedicated to art, youth, and a vision of social justice.

## Speakers



**Reena R. Bajowala** is a Partner in Jenner & Block's Complex Commercial Litigation Department and a member of the Class Action, Technology Litigation, Consumer Law, ERISA Litigation, and Labor and Employment practice groups. She represents corporations in significant disputes involving relationships with their employees, customers, and business partners that deal with consumer law, technology outsourcing arrangements, employment relationships, benefit plans, and corporate reorganizations.

She also counsels corporate boards and executives on a variety of areas of concern, including conflicts of interest, fiduciary duties, benefit plan exposure, employment issues, IT and benefits outsourcing arrangements, and technology policy.

In 2015, Bajowala received the POW! Award from Womenetics for demonstrating "game changing leadership." In 2014, she received an "Illinois Most Powerful & Influential Woman Award" from the Illinois Diversity Council, was named to the *Lawyers of Color* magazine's "Hot List," and received the 2013 Albert E. Jenner Pro Bono Award and the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law's Corporate Partner award.

Bajowala is the Women's Committee Chair for the South Asian Bar Association, and serves on the boards of the Public Interest Law Initiative and the Albany Park Theater Project, as well as the Advisory Board of the Chicago Volunteer Legal Services Foundation.



**Tonit Calaway** is Vice President, Human Resources of Harley-Davidson Motor Company and President of The Harley-Davidson Foundation. She is responsible for supervising approximately 200 human resources employees worldwide and guiding company-wide leadership development, compensation and benefits, labor relations, and diversity.

Calaway joined Harley-Davidson in 1998 as an attorney. As associate general counsel of motor company operations, she handled a variety of contract and securities matters for the company. She was promoted to assistant general counsel/chief compliance counsel and assistant secretary, where she was head of the company's Compliance Department and led securities counsel responsible for preparing the company's notice of annual meeting and proxy statement, certain sections of the annual report, as well as certain filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Calaway also has been a member of the company's Disclosure and Sarbanes-Oxley Steering Committee. She was promoted to her current position in 2010.

Her professional affiliations include board appointments to the Greater Milwaukee Committee, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee, Froedtert Health, Inc., the Black Arts Think Tank, and Milwaukee College Prep and Meta House, Inc. She's also a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

Prior to Harley-Davidson, Calaway worked for two Milwaukee law firms, Davis & Kuelthau, S.C. and Godfrey & Kahn, S.C.

Calaway is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the University of Chicago Law School.



**Chief Judge Rubén Castillo** of Chicago, Illinois, received his Bachelor of Arts in political science from Loyola University Chicago in 1976 and his law degree from Northwestern University School of Law in 1979.

On January 27, 1994, President Clinton nominated Chief Judge Castillo to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois as an Article III federal judge. In 1999, President Clinton nominated him to be the vice-chair of the United States Sentencing Commission. Chief Judge Castillo has also served as an adjunct professor of trial advocacy at Northwestern University School of Law for more than twenty years. As a result of his work with students, he has received five teaching awards from Northwestern Law students.

In 2012, for a term of three years, his fellow judges in the Seventh Circuit designated him to serve as a member of the Judicial Conference of the United States Courts, the policy making body of the federal court system.

On July 1, 2013, he assumed the position of Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.



**Darwin Conner** is a 2013 LCLD Fellow alumnus, a corporate Partner in Sullivan & Worcester's New York office, and Co-Chair of the firm's diversity committee. He represents title banks, hedge funds, financial institutions, and borrowers in single-lender and syndicated acquisition, cash-based, subscription line, asset-backed, secured, and unsecured financing transactions.

Conner, although born a Midwesterner, grew up in NYC. He suffered both massive culture shock and a small Midwest relapse when he left New York to attend Carleton College, a small liberal arts school in Minnesota known for its academic rigor, loose basketball roster standards, and general snow-covered status. He majored in history before returning home to attend Fordham Law School.

Conner now spends his leisure time rubbing his arthritic knees and watching his only daughter Sidney, 14, reach athletic heights he pretends he once achieved, as she crushes her opponents, sees them driven before her, and revels in the lamentations of their parents. Although she excels in her role as goalie to her travel soccer team, she recently joined an AAU basketball team and is breaking ankles up and down the East Coast. Sadly, Conner is also a lifelong Knicks fan. If you run into him, please don't bring it up.



**Leslie D. Davis** is a Partner in Drinker Biddle & Reath's Chicago office who concentrates her practice on complex commercial litigation, including class actions, tort, and employment litigation. She represents major corporations and institutions in a wide range of matters, including commercial contract disputes, products liability, fraud claims, TCPA matters, and insurance class actions.

Davis is an experienced trial lawyer. She has been the lead counsel for numerous jury trials, bench trials, and arbitrations. Notably, she successfully co-defended a leading building products manufacturer in a jury trial with multimillion-dollar exposure. She has also received favorable jury verdicts for several insurance companies and a medical school in past years.



Davis has served as an adjunct professor at Roosevelt University and John Marshall Law School. She is a member of the Board of Directors for Legacy Charter School and Sinai Health Systems. Additionally, she was appointed by Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel as a member of the Community Development Commission (CDC). Davis is also a recipient of the 2014 POW! Award for Leadership bestowed by Womenetics and was named to *Diversity MBA Magazine's* list of 2014 Top 100 under 50 Diverse Executive Leaders list.



**Jason DeJonker** is a Partner in Bryan Cave's Bankruptcy, Restructuring & Creditor's Rights Group and Financial Services Client Service Group, where he represents private equity and hedge fund investors, financial institutions, Fortune 500 corporations, and bankruptcy trustees throughout the United States. As an experienced deal maker and litigator, DeJonker regularly represents clients in real estate, finance, and M&A transactions (distressed and non-distressed), and in litigated matters involving commercial foreclosure and creditor's rights, judgment recovery litigation, and breach of fiduciary duty and corporate governance disputes. In addition, DeJonker has extensive involvement in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy process, including bankruptcy cases, troubled borrower restructuring and forbearance, DIP and exit finance, and pre-bankruptcy workouts.



**Sarah Harris** is the General Counsel and a Partner at Sikich, acting as the firm's chief legal officer and managing all regulatory matters related to the firm's numerous practice areas. Specifically, she focuses on risk assessment as Sikich continues to grow and acquire other companies. Prior to Sikich, Harris served as a partner at Baker & McKenzie LLP, an associate at Mayer Brown LLP, and vice president and general counsel of The Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club. Harris received her B.A. from Scripps College and her J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law.



**Sara Hays** is a Managing Director with Allegis Partners and a co-leader of its North American Board Practice. She has several decades of experience in business leadership roles in the commercial real estate, finance, and hospitality industries, and more than 15 years of board service spanning public, private, and non-profit organizations in a variety of leadership, advisory, and committee roles. She currently serves as an independent director of Apogee Enterprises, Inc., a public global manufacturer of value-added glass products, services, and technologies; and the ECI Group of companies, a private multi-family developer/operator with properties throughout the Southeastern United States. Hays is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Law Board at Northwestern University School of Law and currently serves as President of the Chicago Finance Exchange, where she helped establish a board access initiative for its women financial leader members. She holds an M.B.A. from the Kellogg School of Management, a J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law, and a B.A. in history from Carleton College.



**Heather Hubbard** is the Founder of The Language of Joy, a life-coaching company for modern professionals, and a regular contributor to *The Huffington Post*. In addition to providing individual and group coaching services, she also speaks, leads workshops, and teaches online courses designed to help attorneys and other professionals achieve their biggest, scariest goals while also finding more happiness, satisfaction, and balance along the way.

Prior to founding The Language of Joy, Hubbard practiced law as an intellectual property litigator for more than 10 years. She was most recently a partner and practice group leader at Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, an AmLaw 250 firm, based in Nashville, Tennessee. She has been recognized by Best Lawyers in America in the areas of copyright law, trademark law, intellectual property litigation, and patent litigation; and by Mid-South Super Lawyers, Benchmark Litigation, and Managing IP Stars. She was also named one of Nashville's Top 40 under 40 by the *Nashville Business Journal*.

Hubbard graduated from Vanderbilt University Law School and received a Bachelor of Arts, *summa cum laude*, from the University of Louisville.

Hubbard was a 2013 Fellow of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity.



**Bonnie Lau** is an experienced class action litigator focusing on unfair competition, competition and antitrust, RICO, intellectual property, insurance, patent, and complex commercial disputes. Lau has successfully defended dozens of class actions, multi-district litigations and enforcement actions in federal and state trial and appeals courts across the country, and managed parallel international class actions and foreign regulatory actions. She has also successfully handled bench and jury trials, class certification hearings, arbitrations, and administrative proceedings; and argued matters before the Second and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals. Lau serves on the Dentons Diversity Committee, as Co-Chair of the Asian Professionals Network, as well as the Pro Bono and Charitable Giving Committees, and has been selected as a Northern California Rising Star for the past four years.



**Christine Marlewski** is a Shareholder in the Tampa, Florida, office of GrayRobinson, P.A., where she has practiced since 2001. She has been Board Certified in Civil Trial Law since 2010, and her practice involves litigating cases in state and federal court, including restrictive covenants, trade secret and other intellectual property claims, as well as toxic tort and product liability cases. She was invited to be a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates in 2013, served as a faculty member for the International Association of Defense Counsel's Trial Academy in 2015, and has spoken and written on various aspects of litigation and trials. While she has trained attorneys in her own firm as the director of associate training for all offices, she has also served as an Adjunct Professor of Trial Advocacy for Stetson College of Law since 2008. She has been recognized as Florida Super Lawyers Rising Star since 2013, a Legal Elite by *Florida Trend*, has won numerous awards in her own legal community, and performs pro bono work for the Federal Bar Association, Bay Area Legal Services, and the Florida Center for Trafficking Advocacy. Outside of the practice of law, she is a certified yoga instructor, and she loves to travel the world.



**Christopher R. Mugica** has a broad commercial litigation practice that ranges from fiduciary litigation to first-party insurance defense to consumer and employment litigation. Mugica has represented clients in a variety of complex commercial matters, including class action litigation, fraud, and breach of fiduciary litigation. He also has extensive experience in real estate litigation representing developers, lenders, and property owners associations.



**Roderick A. "Rick" Palmore** is Senior Counsel at Dentons. He has nearly 20 years of experience as a general counsel, at General Mills from 2008 to 2015 and at Sara Lee Corporation from 1999 to 2008. Palmore now advises corporations on strategic matters, risk management, and governance issues across practices and industry sectors.

Palmore is a nationally recognized advocate for diversity in the legal profession. He is the author of *A Call to Action: Diversity in the Legal Profession*, a manifesto urging general counsel to drive diversity by demanding results in the law firms with which they work as well as in their departments. In May 2009, the initiative became the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD), a collaboration between corporate general counsel and law firm managing partners that now includes more than 250 members. Palmore was the founding chair of LCLD and continues to serve on its executive committee.

Palmore has received the Corporate Exemplar Award from the National Legal Aid & Defender Association, the Spirit of Excellence Award from the ABA Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity, the Pinnacle Award for Lifetime Achievement from the National Bar Association, the Scales of Justice Award from the Equal Justice Works Foundation, and the Excellence in Corporate Practice Award from the Association of Corporate Counsel. He was named one of the 40 Most Influential Lawyers of the Decade by *The National Law Journal* in 2010.

Palmore earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of Chicago Law School. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Yale University.



**Justice Jesse G. Reyes** is currently an Appellate Judge on the Illinois Appellate Court, First District, Presiding Justice of the Fifth Division, and former chair of the First District's Settlement Conference Committee. He has been a member of the judiciary since December, 1997, having previously served as both an associate judge and elected judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County. His previous judicial assignments have included the Chancery Division's Mortgage Foreclosure/Mechanics

Lien Section, Domestic Violence court, and the Sixth Municipal District, where he presided over Criminal Misdemeanor matters. While assigned to the First Municipal Division, Justice Reyes assisted in the production of the Circuit Court's educational DUI video, "Que Precio Tiene La Vida."

Justice Reyes is the current President of the Diversity Scholarship Foundation. He is the past president of the Illinois Judges Association, Illinois Judges Foundation, John Marshall Law School Alumni Association, and the Latin American Bar Association; past regional president of the Hispanic National Bar Association; and former judicial chair to the Hispanic National Bar Association Convention. He served as secretary of the Chicago Bar Association and is a former member of the Assembly of the Illinois State Bar Association. Justice Reyes is the recipient of several awards for his distinguished

service to the bench and bar, with special recognition for his efforts in promoting diversity in the legal profession.



**Carlos A. Singer** is a Founding Partner of Huang Ybarra Singer & May LLP. He focuses his practice on complex commercial and intellectual property litigation, including disputes concerning contracts, copyrights, trademarks, unfair competition, trade secrets, breach of fiduciary duty, negligence, and fraud/misrepresentation. He has represented a wide variety of clients, including film studios, utilities, startup companies, online media firms, government agencies, and Fortune 500 companies.

He began his legal career at Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP after serving as a judicial law clerk to the Hon. Harry Pregerson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Singer earned his J.D. from Yale Law School and his B.A. from Columbia University.

Singer is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Los Angeles Copyright Society, a distinguished organization of attorneys who practice in copyright, trademark, and related practice areas. Since 2008, Singer has served as a Trustee of the Mexican-American Bar Foundation, which distributes need- and merit-based scholarships to local law students. From 2010 to 2012, he served on the Board of Commissioners for the Los Angeles Public Library. Singer also served on the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission from 2005 to 2007.



**Bryan Stevenson** is the founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative and one of the most acclaimed and respected lawyers in the nation. His memoir, *Just Mercy*, is the story of a young lawyer fighting on the frontlines of a country in thrall to extreme punishments and careless justice. It is an inspiring story of unbreakable humanity in the most desperate circumstances, and a powerful indictment of our broken justice system and the twisted values that allow it to continue.

Nobel Peace Laureate Desmond Tutu has called Stevenson “America’s young Nelson Mandela.” His work on individual cases has generated national attention and his efforts have reversed death penalties for dozens of condemned prisoners.

After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1985, Stevenson moved to the South, where he started the Equal Justice Initiative, a law practice dedicated to defending some of America’s most rejected and marginalized people. The cases he took on would change Stevenson’s life and transform his understanding of justice and mercy forever.

Stevenson is the recipient of numerous awards, including the MacArthur Foundation “Genius” Grant and the NAACP Image Award for Best Non-Fiction, and was named one of *Time*’s 100 Most Influential People for 2015. Stevenson is a tenured law professor at New York University School of Law. (Photo Credit: Nina Subin)



**Vanessa Allen Sutherland** was nominated by President Barack Obama to the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board in March of 2015 and confirmed by the Senate in August of 2015.

Prior to her appointment Sutherland served as the chief counsel for the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration at the U.S. Department of Transportation, whose mission is to protect people and the environment from the risks associated with hazardous materials transportation.

Prior to PHMSA, Sutherland spent seven years at Fortune 25 Philip Morris/Altria Client Services in Richmond, Virginia. She managed technology transactions, procurement matters, data security and privacy; competitive intelligence; U.S. Customs issues; state and federal audits; and issues related to re-organization, dissolution, and spin-off of international entities.

In 2012, she was the recipient of a U.S. Secretary of Transportation Award at the 45th Annual Secretary's Awards, and two Secretary's awards in 2014.

Sutherland obtained a B.A. from Drew University in New Jersey in political science and art history after studying in London, England. She earned a J.D. and an M.B.A. from American University, as well as Certified Information Privacy Professional standing from the IAPP.



**Zohra Tejani** is a Senior Attorney responsible for the legal affairs of Microsoft's Worldwide Public Sector business. She is based in the Washington, D.C. area. In addition to supporting the legal work for a dynamic business group, her work also focuses on the policy and regulatory issues that may arise when public sector entities transition to cloud-based services. Prior, Tejani supported Microsoft's U.S. Public Sector business.

Before joining Microsoft in 2002, Tejani's experience includes practicing commercial information technology law first in-house for a start-up Internet company and then later for a regional law firm. Tejani has a Bachelor of Arts in economics and a Juris Doctorate from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. She is a member of the ABA Public Contract and Science and Technology Law Sections.

After her 2012 Fellow year, Tejani has remained active with the LCLD Fellows Alumni community. She served first as a member of the former Strategy and Innovation Committee and then later as its chair. From May 2014 to early-June 2016, she has served as the chair of the LCLD Fellows Alumni Executive Council.



**Kandace Watson** heads the Mergers and Acquisitions, Securities, and Corporate Team for Kilpatrick Townsend in Southern California. She has extensive experience representing companies, corporate boards, and executives in complex transactions, in numerous industries. Corporate boards and management teams seek her legal and strategic advice to structure, negotiate, and close complex transactions; comply with related SEC and other federal and state regulations; and expand operations globally. She also advises corporate boards and management teams regarding corporate governance and compliance, strategic planning, and ongoing operations. Structuring joint ventures between



majority and minority-owned business enterprises is among her specialties. Watson was named by *The Daily Transcript* as one of San Diego's "Top Attorneys 2015" in corporate transactional law and was profiled in 2014 by the *San Diego Business Journal*. Watson obtained her J.D. from University of Texas at Austin and her B.A. from Hampton University.



**Judge Ann Claire Williams** was appointed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit in 1999. She became the first judge of color appointed to that court and the third African-American woman to serve on any United States Court of Appeals. Before that appointment, Judge Williams served on the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. At 35, she was the youngest woman of color ever appointed to the federal bench.

Judge Williams has a long history of service to the judiciary. She was the first woman and judge of color appointed chair of the Court Administration and Case Management Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States, was the first judge of color to serve as president of the Federal Judges Association, served on the Supreme Court Fellows Program Commission, and now serves on the Judicial Branch Committee of the U.S. Judicial Conference.

Judge Williams also has a longstanding commitment to education and training, both in the United States and abroad. She has traveled and continues to travel to Kenya, Indonesia, Liberia, Ghana, Rwanda, and Uganda to lead training programs for judges and lawyers on topics such as case management, judicial ethics, domestic and gender-based violence, opinion writing, alternative dispute resolution, and trial advocacy. She has led these delegations in partnership with the Judiciary and Prosecutors of each country, the U.S. Department of State, and Lawyers Without Borders. She has served as a member of international training delegations teaching trial and appellate advocacy at the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia.

Judge Williams has committed herself to public interest work and expanding the pipeline for minorities and women. In 1977, she co-founded Minority Legal Education Resources Inc., which has helped over 4,000 lawyers pass the Illinois bar at a rate that equals or exceeds the annual passage rate. In 1987, she helped found the Black Women Lawyers' Association of Chicago. In 1991, she created the Equal Justice Works Fellowship Program, which has placed more than 1,000 lawyers in underserved communities. In 1992, Judge Williams co-founded Just The Beginning—A Pipeline Organization, to help students of color and other under-represented groups to pursue legal careers. JTB-APO has summer middle- and high-school programs in eight cities and hundreds of law students have served as summer interns in the chambers of federal judges across the country.

Judge Williams has been the recipient of numerous awards, including being named by The Newsweek Daily Beast Company as one of 150 Fearless Women in the World (2012), the Leadership Institute for Women of Color Attorneys, Breaking the Glass Ceiling Award (2012), the Black Women Lawyers' Association of Greater Chicago's Pioneer Award (2012), Chicago Inn of Court's Joel M. Flaum Award (2010), the American Judicature Society's Edward J. Devitt Distinguished Service to Justice Award (2009), the American Bar Association Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, the National Bar Association's Gertrude E. Rush Award (2008), and the Arabella Babb Mansfield Award from the National Association of Women Lawyers (2005). Judge Williams serves on the boards of the Carnegie Foundation of New York, the University of Notre Dame, the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, National Institute for Trial Advocacy, and the Advisory Council of JTB-APO.

Judge Williams began her career as a music and third grade teacher in the inner city schools of Detroit after graduating with a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Wayne State University and a master's degree in guidance and counseling from the University of Michigan. She received her law degree from the University of Notre Dame. Before joining the federal bench, she was an assistant United States attorney in Chicago where she was chief of the Organized Drug Enforcement Task Force. She was also a law clerk to Judge Robert A. Sprecher on the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, the court on which she now sits.



**Chief Judge Diane P. Wood** is presides over the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. She is also a Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Chicago Law School. Chief Judge Wood attended the University of Texas at Austin, earning her B.A. in 1971 (highest honors), and her J.D. in 1975 (Order of the Coif). She clerked for Judge Irving L. Goldberg on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit (1975-76), and for Justice Harry A. Blackmun of the U.S. Supreme Court (1976-77). She began her career as a legal academic in 1980 after a brief period at the U.S. Department of State. From 1993 until she was appointed a Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit in 1995, she served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. She became Chief Judge of the Seventh Circuit on October 1, 2013. Chief Judge Wood is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences and is on the Council of the American Law Institute. Chief Judge Wood is married to Dr. Robert L. Sufit. She has three children and three step-children. She enjoys playing the oboe and English horn in several Chicago-area amateur orchestras. (Photo Credit: Lloyd DeGrane)



**William "Bill" Yu** is a Partner at Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP and an experienced trial lawyer with litigation, advocacy, and counseling skills that cross many practice areas. His practice has included representation and trials involving commercial and business disputes, products liability, class action litigation, employment, and professional liability. He has tried high exposure cases to jury verdict in both state and federal court.

In 2007, Yu received the "Best Lawyers Under 40" award from the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association. He is also a nominated member of the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance. He has served on the Magistrate Judge Selection Committee for the Northern District of Illinois.

Yu is the U.S. Central Regional Governor to the International Association of Korean Lawyers. He is also a member of the Korean American Bar Association and was appointed to its inaugural Board of Advisors in 2008. He previously served as the past president of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of the Greater Chicagoland Area.

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