



315 South Plymouth Court Chicago, Illinois 60604

TEL: 312.427.2737, ext. 343 FAX: 312.427.0438 alumni.jmls.edu

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- TO: Major Media; Legal Media, Corporate; Governmental, Political, Educational and Law Student Outreach Distribution Lists (Midwest Regional and National)
- FROM: Publicity Sub-Committee, 2016 John Marshall Law School Alumni Association Freedom and Distinguished Service Awards and Installation Dinner (May 12, 2016 at Hilton Chicago)
- FOR: The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association

# The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association to Host 2016 Freedom and Distinguished Service Awards and Installation Dinner

Thursday, May 12, 2016 at Hilton Chicago

| FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE<br>May 6, 2016 | CONTACT: | MEDIA: ENERI Communications<br>info@enericom.net<br>or (312) 635-0888 |
|--------------------------------------|----------|---|
|                                      | TICKETS: | Francine Williams<br>fwillia@jmls.edu<br><i>(e-mail preferred)</i>    |

CHICAGO, IL - - Final plans are underway for The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association's 2016 Freedom and Distinguished Service Awards and Installation Dinner, to be held Thursday, May 12, 2016 at the Hilton Chicago, 720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. The theme for the 2016 event is "Mentorship: Every Law Student Should Have An Alum To Turn To." This benefit serves as one of the largest annual celebrations within Chicago's legal community, with approximately 500 judges, dignitaries, attorneys, and prominent civic and governmental leaders expected to attend this year. The purpose of the event is to raise needed funds for law student scholarships.

Cocktail Reception is at 5 p.m. and Opening Ceremonies are at 6 p.m. with dinner and awards presentation following, until approximately 8:15 p.m. The Hon. Timothy C. Evans, Chief Judge, Cook County, Illinois Circuit Court, will serve as emcee.

Tickets are \$125.00 each and are available on a first-funded, first-seated basis. Law students may purchase tickets for \$100.00 each. The event is nearly sold-out so for last-minute ticket reservations please contact Francine Williams at fwillia@jmls.edu or register online at jmlsfad.eventbrite.com.

#### THE JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2016 FREEDOM AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS AND INSTALLATION DINNER (5/12/16) - - ADD ONE

"Being a member of The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association is like being a member of a family. I don't know of another organization who has members who are more supportive, dedicated or loyal to each other," said Jennifer P. Irmen, 1st Vice President of the Association and Chair of the Freedom and Distinguished Service Awards Dinner Committee. "The dinner acts as the association's largest gathering all year which opens doors to new professional opportunities for alum and friends of the school," she said.

## AWARDS

The Association plans to award its prestigious Freedom, Distinguished Service, and Diversity Awards that evening. The Freedom Award honors a person, who through their thinking, accomplishments or profession reflects the basic tenets of freedom and recognizes outstanding contributions to freedom in today's society. The Distinguished Service Award recognizes an individual for his/her outstanding achievements in a career field or personal endeavor. The Diversity Award recognizes an individual for his/her advancement of diversity and inclusion within the legal community.

The JMLS Alumni Association has announced that the following people have been named as 2016 awardees:

The Hon. Evelyn Sanguinetti, Lt. Governor of the State of Illinois ('98 JMLS Graduate), who is the first Latina Lieutenant Governor in the country, will be receiving the Association's Freedom Award. In addition, Sanguinetti has been named Keynote Speaker for the event.

Bruce Farrel Dorn ('75), Managing Attorney, Bruce Farrel Dorn & Associates, In-House Counsel for State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance and Adjunct Law Professor, The John Marshall Law School; Michael Gesas ('84), Partner, Arnstein & Lehr; and Sherri Dzik ('99), Former JMLS Alumni Director, have been named recipients of the 2016 Distinguished Service Awards.

The Hon. Jesse G. Reyes, Illinois Appellate Court Justice and a member of the JMLS Board of Visitors and The Hon. Jessica Arong O'Brien ('98-JD/LLM in Taxation and '02 – LLM Employee Benefits) and a Member of the JMLS Board of Trustees, Cook County Circuit Court Judge, have been named recipients of the Association's Diversity Award. Justice Reyes and Judge O'Brien are co-founders of the Diversity Scholarship Foundation. Marilyn Criss, Administrative Assistant to Dean William Powers, Dean of Student Affairs at The John Marshall Law School and "The Heart of JMLS," will be receiving an honorary service award at the dinner.

Full bios of all awardees available upon request.

## PROGRAMMING

The Association will hold its Installation Ceremonies for new officers that evening. Jennifer P. Irmen (''04), Member of Blair Caravelli Irmen Law, LLC will be installed as President; Don Rubin ('80), Managing Member of Rubin & Norris will be installed as First Vice President; Chris Cali ('09), Associate at Latimer LeVay Fyock will be installed as Second Vice President, and Howard Annkin ('93), Founding Partner of Ankin Law Offices will be installed as Treasurer of the Alumni Association along with those elected to the positions of Third Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and new board members.

(MORE)

## THE JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2016 FREEDOM AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS AND INSTALLATION DINNER (5/12/16) - - ADD TWO

#### SPONSORS

Diamond Sponsors include The John Marshall Law School and Wintrust. Platinum Sponsors include Blair Caravelli Irmen Law, LLC and Jensen Litigation Solutions. President's Sponsor is State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company. Silver Sponsors includes Exelon. Bronze Sponsors include ADR.

#### CHECKS

All checks should be made payable to The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association and mailed to Francine Williams at The John Marshall Law School, 315 S. Plymouth Court, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

#### THE JMLS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION... WHO WE ARE

The mission of The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association is to advance and promote the common interests of The John Marshall Law School and its alumni, students and friends. The Alumni Association is a 501(c)(3) organization, which works in close collaboration with the JMLS Office of Alumni Relations. The Alumni Association is governed by a Board of Directors who direct all alumni activities that are independent of The John Marshall Law School.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information, check out the website: http://alumni.jmls.edu/get-involved/alumni-association. Sponsor, ad, and general inquiries should be directed to Jennifer P. Irmen at either jpi@bcilaw.com or (312) 600-7538.

#### MEDIA

ENERI Communications is serving as charitable media agency of record and has received the assignment to coordinate media relations, TV station/media company participation and press credentials. All media requests including requests for interviews, images and press credentials should be directed to ENERI Communications at info@enericom.net or (312) 635-0888. Please request credentials by May 10, 2016 at noon.

THE JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2016 FREEDOM AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS AND INSTALLATION DINNER (5/12/16)

#### PROGRAM RUNDOWN (DRAFT as of 5/2/16)

5 p.m. COCKTAIL RECEPTION - Normandie Lounge

## 6 p.m. **OPENING CEREMONIES** - International Ballroom

National Anthem by JMLS Associate Professor Maureen Straub Kordesh

Welcome Remarks by Jennifer P. Irmen and Introduction of Illinois Cook County Circuit Court Chief Judge Timothy C. Evans, Emcee

(MORE)

## THE JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2016 FREEDOM AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS AND INSTALLATION DINNER (5/12/16) - - ADD THREE

Remarks by JMLS Dean John E. Corkery

- 6:20 p.m. Presentation of Freedom Award to Illinois Lt. Gov. Evelyn Sanguinetti Remarks by Freedom Award Recipient/Keynote Speaker, Illinois Lt. Gov. Evelyn Sanguinetti
- 6:35 p.m. Dinner Service Begins
- 6:45 p.m. Presentation of Distinguished Service Awards "INSPIRATIONAL" Video Snapshots Series and Live Presentations

A Portrait of Bruce Farrel Dorn, JMLS Class of 1975, Presented by Erin Smith A Portrait of Sherri Dzik, JMLS Class of 1999, Presented by The Hon. Regina A. Scannichio, Cook County, Illinois Circuit Court Judge

A Portrait of Michael L. Gesas, JMLS Class of 1984, Presented by Ken Michaels

Presentation of Diversity Award A Portrait of The Hon. Jesse G. Reyes, JMLS Class of 1982, Illinois Appellate Court Justice, Presented by Dina Ninfo

A Portrait of The Hon. Jessica Arong O'Brien, Illinois Cook County Circuit Court Judge, JMLS Class of 1998, Presented by Karen A. Enright

Videos Produced by ENERI Communications Produced and Directed by Rieny G. Cualoping

7:15 p.m. Special Presentation of Honorary Award to Marilyn J. Criss by Jennifer P. Irmen Slideshow Presentation

JMLS Alumni Association President's Speech by Karie Valentino

- 7:25 p.m. Installation of Incoming JMLS Alumni Association President, Jennifer P. Irmen by The Hon. Jessica Arong O'Brien, Illinois Cook County Circuit Court Judge
- 7:30pm Remarks by Incoming President, Jennifer P. Irmen

Acknowledgement of Scholarship Recipients

- 7:40 p.m. Installation of Officers and Directors by The Hon. Russell W. Hartigan, Illinois Cook County Circuit Court Judge
- 8 p.m. Concluding Remarks by Event Co-Chair, Chris Cali
- 8:15 p.m. **ADJOURNMENT**

## THE JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2016 FREEDOM AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS AND INSTALLATION DINNER (5/12/16) - - ADD FOUR

#### MAILING ADDRESS

The John Marshall Alumni Association 315 South Plymouth Court Chicago, Illinois 60604 e-mail fwillia@jmls.edu website: http://alumni.jmls.edu/get-involved/alumni-association/

# FOR MEDIA INQUIRIES, CONTACT:

ENERI Communications tel. (312) 635-0888 e-mail general: info@enericom.net

FOR: 2016 The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association Freedom and Distinguished Service Awards Dinner Planning Committee

Karie Valentino Jennifer P. Irmen Outgoing President Chair and 1st Vice President

2016 Planning Committee Co-Chairs Chris Cali Carolina Sales Dina Ninfo

Co-Chair and 3rd Vice President Co-Chair and Secretary Co-Chair and Director

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