

Publications

•The Tenant-Landlord Handbook. \$11.95 per copy (\$7.95 for Council members)

•L-19 Model Residential Lease. FREE

•The Legal Services Directory. \$5.00 per copy (\$3.00 for Council members)

•Wage Assignments and Wage Deduction Orders in Illinois. \$4.00 per copy (\$2.00 for Council members)

•A Directory of State and Federal Judges in Chicago. (350 pages) \$60.00 per copy (\$30.00 for Council members)

— The Tenant-Landlord handbook
copies

— L-19 Model Lease
copies

— The Legal Services Directory
copies

— Wage Assignments and Wage Deduction Orders in Illinois
copies

— A Directory of State and Federal Judges in Chicago
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Chicago Council of Lawyers



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Chicago Council of Lawyers



Chicago's Public Interest Bar Association

The Chicago Council of Lawyers is a non-partisan public interest bar association dedicated to improving the quality of the legal system by advocating for fair and efficient administration of justice. The Chicago Council of Lawyers works for effectiveness, accountability and equity in the law so that everyone has a fair chance for justice. In order for the Council to fulfill its mission and to impact the broadest number of people, the Council decided to form a partnership with Applesed, a nationally based non-partisan and not-for-profit organization.

The Chicago Council of Lawyers was organized in the summer of 1969 by a group of attorneys who believed that lawyers had obligations beyond those of other professions. These lawyers wanted to create an association of attorneys that would challenge the inadequacies of our legal system with a lawyer's range of skills and expertise – and the bar responded. By October 1969, over three hundred attorneys attended the first annual meeting of the Chicago Council of Lawyers.

Since 1969, the Chicago Council of Lawyers has achieved many landmark accomplishments, and through reports, evaluations, legislation, and speaking out on the important issues of the day, we have influenced our Chicago community in a constructive way.

Chicago Council of Lawyers and Chicago Applesed Fund for Justice



The Chicago Council of Lawyers and Chicago Applesed have worked on many projects together. While both organizations focus on social justice and government effectiveness issues, they both contribute in different yet complementary ways. The Chicago Council of Lawyers has distinguished itself as an effective and independent voice addressing critical court reform issues and speaking out on issues involving the bench, the bar, and the administration of justice. Chicago Applesed adds a new dimension: an emphasis on government effectiveness and social justice issues.

Chicago Applesed provides the resources and research while the Chicago Council of Lawyers advocates for change and implementation of recommendations. Together, the Chicago Council of Lawyers and Chicago Applesed comprise a public interest partnership that impacts on local and national levels.

Chicago Applesed and the Council produce useful publications that assist the public and legal profession:

- The Tenant/Landlord Handbook
- The Legal Services Directory of Free and Low Cost Legal Services in the Chicago Area
- Wage Assignment and Wage Deduction Orders
- A Directory of State and Federal Judges in Chicago
- L-19 Model Residential Lease



Federal Judicial Evaluations

The Chicago Council of Lawyers is the first bar association to publicly evaluate the federal district judges in Chicago. These federal judicial evaluations are motivated by a desire to improve the quality of justice in Chicago by providing honest feedback to the judges themselves and to the public officials who will be making future judicial selections.

State Judicial Evaluations

To assist the public in evaluating the candidates for judicial office, the Chicago Council of Lawyers evaluates candidates for vacancies in Cook County. The Council has evaluated candidates for the state bench in every judicial election since 1970. This is an important process because the Council believes it is essential to evaluate key officials who make important decisions that have an enormous effect on the public.

Speaking Out on Important Issues

The Chicago Council of Lawyers monitors current events that affect our justice system. Therefore, the Council writes policy statements, submits amicus briefs, addresses issues to the media, and holds forums in order to further its mission.

Chicago Council of Lawyers
and Chicago Applesed:
A Partnership for Reform

The Chicago Council of Lawyers and Chicago Applesed focus on important social issues, including:

- Examining judicial campaign financing
- Examining the way employment discrimination disputes are resolved in Illinois
- Reviewing death penalty procedures
- Providing court-appointed legal representation to indigent defenders in criminal law matters

We operate four programs to accomplish our goals:

- Court Reform Program
- Law and Social Justice Program
- Government Effectiveness Program
- Law Serving the Community Program

Programs and Projects
Chicago Council of Lawyers and
Chicago Applesed

Cook County Criminal Justice Project

Chicago Applesed is examining the felony trial system within the Cook County criminal justice system. Using a staff of researchers, pro bono assistance from Chicago-area lawyers, and a prestigious advisory committee, we will identify ways to improve adjudication in our courts.

Once the research is gathered, the Chicago Council of Lawyers will work on the advocacy phase of the project.

Child Support Project

Only the public school system affects more children in the United States than child support collection and enforcement. Chicago Council of Lawyers, Chicago Applesed, and a blue-ribbon panel of experts released a report advocating a revamping of the child support system and proposed a new model (a unified services model) for child support collections. This model employs a "triage" method of intake for efficient use of personnel and resources, an expanded administrative role in processing support orders, and a consolidation of services into a unified system.

Immigration Court Reform

Many immigrants faced with deportation are not allowed to be physically present at their hearings but can watch via videoconferencing in INS detention facilities outside Chicago. Chicago Applesed and the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago analyzed the court system and issued a report, *"Videoconferencing in Removal Proceedings: A Case Study of the Chicago Immigration Court."* In addition, the Chicago Council of Lawyers submitted its own comments listing recommendations to improve the hearings and procedures for detainees.

Chicago Council of Lawyers and Chicago Applesed will continue its efforts on behalf of immigrants by advocating for change in this unfair system.

Chicago Council of Lawyers Membership Form

Dues Schedule (check one)

Lawyers who have been admitted to the bar for:

- Less than 6 months Free
- 6 months - 2 years \$60.00
- 3-5 years \$100.00
- 6-10 years \$130.00
- more than 10 years \$170.00

- Lawyers employed by academic institutions, government agencies, or public interest organizations \$60.00
 - Lawyers whose economic circumstances make regular rates impractical \$60.00
 - Lawyers who are retired \$60.00
 - Judges \$60.00
 - Law Students \$10.00
- Please indicate school: _____

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