



Diversity Digest

Kirkland & Ellis LLP's Digest of Diversity News

March 2004, Issue I

RECENT EVENTS

February:

Women's Leadership Initiative, Presentation by Emily Nicklin
San Francisco
February 9, 2004

March:

Harvard BLSA Spring Conference
"Chicago Roadshow" Panel Discussion, Rebekah R. Eubanks
March 5, 2004

Western Law Center for Disability Rights Presentation
Los Angeles
March 5, 2004

Women's Leadership Initiative, "Practical Tips for Business Development"
Chicago
March 24, 2004

Black Women Lawyers' Association, *Mentoring Dinner Series, Part II*
www.bwla.org
Chicago
March 25, 2004

UPCOMING EVENTS

March:

MCCA Diversity Dinner & MCCA 3rd Annual CLE Expo
www.mcca.com
Chicago
March 31, 2004

April:

Women's Leadership Initiative, Presentation by Karen McCartan DeSantis
Washington, D.C.
April 13, 2004

Kirkland & Ellis LLP Forms Women's Leadership Initiative

The Firm recently created the Kirkland & Ellis LLP Women's Leadership Initiative ("WLI"). The goal of the WLI is to provide a forum for discussion of issues that are relevant to women in the Firm and legal community, foster opportunities, and provide a supportive network for our female attorneys. The WLI's inaugural event was held on Thursday, January 22, 2004 in the Chicago office. A training seminar, which was lead by and commenced with a speech from Litigation partner, Emily Nicklin, focused on a discussion of issues in the practice of law that are unique to, or more relevant for women. Jane DiRenzo Pigott, Managing Director, Fuse³ Group LLC, delivered a presentation titled, "The Rules of the Game." Ms. Pigott then engaged Kirkland's Chicago senior women partners in a question and answer session during which the partners relayed experiences, insights, and opinions about their careers and career progression at the Firm. The evening agenda continued at Spiaggia restaurant, beginning with a networking opportunity for our attorneys with a number of our women clients, and concluding with a dinner presentation by Ms. Pigott on mentoring.

The San Francisco office hosted a similar talk by Emily Nicklin on February 9th, the Washington office will host its inaugural WLI event on April 13th, and the New York office is scheduling an event this summer. The women partners in the Los Angeles office will host the Professional Women's Luncheon for women clients this fall.

The Chicago office hosted the second WLI event on March 24, 2004, during which "Practical Tips for Business Development" was presented by Corporate partner, Margaret A. Gibson, Chief Marketing Officer, Karen L. Braun, and Julie Paradise, President, Communication Strategies Company. This event was moderated by Corporate partner, Linda K. Myers, and included a panel discussion on business development by Employee Benefits partner, Vicki V. Hood, Litigation partner, Leslie M. Smith, and Intellectual Property partner, Linda S. Resh. The evening culminated in an opportunity to socialize during a wine and cheese tasting.

Kirkland to Sponsor Events at MCCA 3rd Annual CLE Expo

Kirkland will have a highly visible presence at the upcoming Minority Corporate Counsel Association ("MCCA") 3rd Annual CLE Expo, held in Chicago from March 31 - April 2, 2004. The MCCA was founded in 1997 to advocate for the expanded hiring, retention, and promotion of minority attorneys in corporate law departments and the law firms that serve them. On March 31, 2004, the MCCA Midwest Region Diversity Dinner, for which K&E is a premier sponsor, will honor S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc., Motorola, Inc., and The Boeing Company. On April 1, 2004, Kirkland will host the Networking Reception at the CLE Expo during which Michael D. Jones, Litigation partner, will provide a welcome and opening remarks to the 600 guests in attendance. Mike will also participate on a panel entitled "Crisis Management -- To Stay Ahead in the Court of Public Opinion." The Firm will host a hospitality booth during the three-day event.

K&E Scholarship Recipient to Join Chicago Summer Program

Eryan K. Cobham, a second year Northwestern University School of Law student, has received and accepted the 2004 Kirkland & Ellis LLP Minority Scholarship. Eryan will be joining the Chicago office summer program.



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April:

Women's Leadership Initiative, "Leadership in the Non-Profit Sector" Chicago

April 13, 2004

ABA Commission on Women in the Profession, "Women in Law Leadership Academy"

Linda S. Resh, Panel Participant, "A Plan for Success: Client Development Training"

www.abanet.org/women

Chicago

April 16-17, 2004

May:

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund Liberty Awards Gala

www.lambdalegal.org

New York

May 3, 2004

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Annual Awards Dinner

New York

May 11, 2004

Diversity Lunch Series

Chicago

May 25, 2004

June:

ABA Section of Business Law and ABA Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession, "The National Conference for the Minority Lawyer"

www.abanet.org/buslaw

San Francisco

June 17-18, 2004

Emily Nicklin Featured in Crain's Chicago Business Special Report Law Firms

Emily Nicklin, Chicago Litigation partner and Firm Committee Member, was profiled in Crain's Chicago Business on March 29, 2004. The article, "Rainmaker Represents A-List Clients," includes description of some of Emily's significant defense matters and clients, as well as, in part, Emily's thoughts concerning mentoring. The article quotes former Kirkland partner and current client, Donald G. Kempf, Jr., Morgan Stanley Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, and former Kirkland partner and mentor, Fred H. Bartlit, Jr. of Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP.

Leslie M. Smith Included in List of "Women Litigators on the Rise"

In the March/April 2004 issue of Diversity & the Bar magazine, Leslie Smith, Chicago Litigation partner, is included in the list of "Women Litigators on the Rise," which was featured in the article titled, "A Woman's Place Is In The Courtroom." Leslie is also quoted in the article.

Linda K. Myers to Attend Diversity Best Practices Discussion

Linda Myers, Chicago Corporate partner and Chicago Recruiting Committee Chair, will attend "Recruiting and Retention Strategies that Effectively Promote Diversity" on Tuesday, March 30, 2004. The program, co-sponsored by Martindale-Hubbell and Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP, will give hiring partners and diversity managers the opportunity to share best practices and discuss the challenges and opportunities involved in increasing diversity within the law firm environment.

Thomas D. Yannucci Speaks at Law Firm Leaders Forum Conference

Tom Yannucci, Washington, D.C. Litigation partner and Chairman, Kirkland Firm Management Committee, was a speaker at the Law Firm Leaders Forum conference in San Francisco, California, March 4-5, 2004. In addition to participating on a panel concerning the response of large multi-jurisdictional law firms to market developments, Tom was one of four panelists who spoke with respect to the topic of "Women In the Law: Successfully Understanding and Managing the Special Challenges of Career Development for Female Lawyers."

WLI To Host Women Law Student Groups

The Women's Leadership Initiative will host The Women's Leadership Coalition of Northwestern University School of Law and The Law Women's Caucus of the University of Chicago Law School on Tuesday, April 13, 2004. The program, "Leadership in the Non-Profit Sector," will be presented by several Kirkland women attorneys who will share their experiences about the nonprofit organizations with which they are affiliated. The program will be moderated by Intellectual Property partner, Linda S. Resh, and speakers will include Litigation partners, Donna Welch, Director, Housing Opportunities for Women, and Gabriela Monahan, Director, The DNA Initiative, Corporate partner, Rebekah R. Eubanks, Executive Board Member, Teach for America Friends Counsel, and Litigation associate, Colby A. Kingsbury, Leadership Council, Midwest Immigration and Human Rights Counsel. A cocktail reception will follow the presentation.

Kirkland to Underwrite Vault/MCCA Guide to Law Diversity Programs

Vault, publisher of Vault Guide to the Top 100 Law Firms, is teaming with the MCCA to produce the Vault/MCCA Guide to Law Diversity Programs. This publication will be utilized by general counsels seeking law firms with a commitment to diversity as well as by law students, laterals, and career services professionals who are interested in firms' diversity initiatives. Kirkland is one of the underwriters of the Guide.

Please contact Attorney Development with questions, comments, suggestions, or submissions at AttrDev@kirkland.com.