Jonathan wanted to purchase a condominium. He put $5,000 down as earnest money and came to an agreement with the seller. The agreement included a separate note for $12,000 that Jonathan signed as part of the contract, although no money was ever actually exchanged. Then, when the sellers got a much higher offer for the unit, they began to systematically to cause problems. Eventually, those problems prevented Jonathan’s closing. Ultimately, the property sold for $70,000 more than Jonathan’s offer. To add insult to injury, the seller claimed that Jonathan was the cause of the failed closing and sued to retain the $5,000 in earnest money as well as the $12,000. Jonathan filed a counter-claim to have his $5,000 returned but soon ran out of funds to pay his attorney. The Honorable William Maki appointed CVLS under the Access to Justice Program and Carl Dreyer from Law Offices of Donald L. Johnson took the case. Arguing hard for summary judgment, Carl won on all counts. The $5,000 was returned to Jonathan and the $12,000 note was voided. Jonathan left the courtroom a very satisfied client. Thanks to the hard work that Carl and other CVLS volunteers put in on a daily basis, yet another client was given the equal access to justice he deserved.
A new clinic is born!

Sidley was speechless when Salvation broke the news that they were expecting. Sure, they’ve been trying for a while now but hope had suddenly become reality and it was all so overwhelming.

“Are you sure?”
“Yes, I’ve suspected it for days but CVLS confirmed it this morning.”
“Wh-when?”
“October 7th.”

We are proud to introduce the newest member of the CVLS family—the Sidley Austin/Salvation Army/CVLS Legal Clinic, born on October 7th, 2010. We know, the name can use some work. The important thing is that there are now even more locations where low-income Chicagoans can go to receive much needed legal representation. The clinic, located at 1 North Ogden Avenue, inside the Salvation Army, will serve the disenfranchised the first Thursday of every month from 6 - 7 PM. Thank you to Clinic Chair Kevin Fee and everyone else who worked overtime bringing this beautiful clinic into the world, and to all of our volunteers who will be giving the time and effort needed to help this clinic grow up to be a strong and healthy beacon of equal access to justice.

CVLS volunteers named 40 under 40.

Congratulations to CVLS volunteers Eric D. Ledbetter and Colin H. Dunn for being named two of this year’s 40 attorneys under 40 to watch by the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin and Chicago Lawyer.

Eric D. Ledbetter of Quarles & Brady LLP has distinguished himself many times over at CVLS’ Chinatown Legal Clinic. According to Anne Shaw, co-chair of the clinic, Eric is not only a caring advocate for those in need but also an enthusiastic supporter of equal access to justice. “Without Eric’s dedication and devotion to serving the immigrant community, I know our clinic would not be as successful as it is.”

Colin H. Dunn of Clifford Law Offices volunteers with CVLS’ Adult GAL Program. Colin holds nothing back when performing the task at hand and it has not gone unnoticed. He not only impresses his coworkers with his drive for excellence but his opponents as well. “I am most impressed with his ability to work in a cooperative, respectful manner with defense counsel, while still zealously representing his clients,” says Mark S. Susina of Adler Murphy who has had the privilege of facing him in court.
THE STAFF AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
CHICAGO VOLUNTEER LEGAL SERVICES
REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY
AT OUR ANNUAL CEREMONY OF AWARDS
GIVEN IN HONOR OF
OUR EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEERS
AND
PIERCE & ASSOCIATES
AND
FISHER & SHAPIRO, LLC
AND
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 10th, 2010
AT HALF AFTER FIVE O’CLOCK
KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP
300 North LaSalle St.
CVLS Seminar Registration
October - November

October 27 “Litigation Practice in Domestic Relations Court”
by Laura N. Ashmore of Lake Toback

The Domestic Relations Division offers attorneys some of the most frequent and most interesting litigation opportunities in the Daley Center. Every day, judges hold contested hearings, some lasting for days, and adjudicate tussles over witness lists, experts, discovery and other litigation essentials. If you are looking for the chance to hone your litigation skills, whether for the first time or after years of practice, the Domestic Relations Division is a perfect arena. Laura N. Ashmore, of Lake Toback, and a veteran of this practice, will discuss litigation as it applies to Domestic Relations cases. She will include general litigation techniques as well as specific strategies and issues common to this arena.

November 8 “Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Training”
Cook County Bar Association, 321 S. Plymouth Court, 2-5 P.M

CVLS staff will train volunteers to represent homeowners in pre-trial mediation. Attendees will learn: Basic information about mortgages and the foreclosure process; why mediation is an important tool for conflict resolution and how the mediation process works; how to effectively represent your client in foreclosure mediation including information about relevant federal foreclosure relief programs, loss mitigation and negotiating a graceful exit. Volunteer attorneys with all levels of experience are welcome to attend. If you have questions or would like to register for the training, please contact Dan Santrella, 312.332.7521 or dsantrella@cvls.org.

Please visit www.cvls.org/seminars to register.

All seminars are held from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. at 100 North LaSalle, Suite 900.
Archived seminars can be found at www.illinoisprobono.org.
**Join us at Vino & Van Gogh.**

The CVLS Junior Board presents the 2nd Annual **Vino & Van Gogh**

**Friday, November 12 2010**
7-10 p.m.

Gallery KH
311 W. Superior

$50 per person
Purchase tickets online at www.cvls.org/vinovangogh

Questions?
Contact Emily Schnidt at eschnidt@denoandscarry.com

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Come join the CVLS Junior Board as they host the 2nd annual Vino & Van Gogh. Whether you stay for a single glass of excellent wine or spend the whole night enjoying the company of Chicago’s up-and-coming young attorneys we promise that you will have a blast. Good food, good wine and great company, what more could you ask for? Don’t wait, buy your tickets today!

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**Immigration seminar with the IABA.**

Join the Indo-American Bar Association and Chicago Volunteer Legal Services their upcoming immigration seminar on Friday, October 16th from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Indo-American Center, 6328 N. California. This seminar will be an excellent introduction to basic concepts of immigration law, especially for attorneys interested in providing limited pro bono counsel on topics involving requirements for citizenship, family-based immigration, advising clients on the use of free immigration resources, and employment authorization under the H1B visa. A brief Q & A session will follow the seminar presentation. This seminar should be considered foundational only and attorneys are encouraged to further familiarize themselves with immigration law practice before providing pro bono counsel. CLE credits are available to all who attend. To RSVP, please contact Tejas Shah at tejasshah1980@gmail.com by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 15th.