



2026-2027

PARTNERSHIP PACKAGE

DEFENDING JUSTICE. DEFINING TOMORROW.

112TH INSTALLATION AND AWARDS BANQUET

JUNE 26, 2026 | 6 PM

HYATT REGENCY

151 E. WACKER DR., CHICAGO, IL 60601

ABOUT THE COOK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

For over 100 years, the Cook County Bar Association (CCBA) has aggressively supported the civil, political, and economic rights of the Black community. Members of the CCBA include lawyers, judges, law students, law professors, elected and appointed representatives, and community advocates throughout the State of Illinois and across the country.

The history of Black men and women working to mold and shape the law in order to improve the quality of their respective lives in this State began in 1869 with Lloyd G. Wheeler's admission to practice law in Illinois. His admission began a tradition of dedicated and distinguished service by Black lawyers to the community.

The seeds of the Cook County Bar Association were planted after 1896, when 32 Black lawyers began to meet informally to plan protests against discrimination in hotels, theaters, and restaurants, and to address judicial elections and school desegregation. Among the group of Black lawyers was Ida Platt, the first Black woman admitted to practice in the State of Illinois, and the third Black woman lawyer in the nation. This informal collaboration lasted until 1914, when the younger generation of lawyers decided to form the Cook County Bar Association on December 18, 1914. George W. Ellis, Richard E. Westbrook, James G. Cotter, and members of the local bar met at the Wabash YMCA at 38th Street and Wabash, and worked to organize the Cook County Bar Association. Edward H. Wright was elected the first CCBA president. On March 5, 1920, the CCBA was formally incorporated by the State of Illinois. In 1925, CCBA members C. Francis Stradford, Wendell E. Green, and Jesse N. Baker were among the founders of the National Bar Association.

During the 1919 Chicago race riots, CCBA members defended Black residents who were unlawfully arrested and initiated civil lawsuits for damages. Through organized activities and individual contributions from its members, the CCBA has held legal clinics and community forums at various sites, and is also supported by renowned civil rights organizations including Rainbow PUSH, local chapters of the NAACP, and other local groups and churches.

ADVANCING EQUALITY AND JUSTICE:

Historically, the CCBA has engaged in a variety of legal programs to advance the legal profession and its members. One of its most important contributions was the development of an organized system for the fair and impartial evaluations of judicial candidates which led to the joint alliance with other minority bar associations.





EVENT OVERVIEW

CCBA's Annual Installation and Awards Banquet is a momentous occasion that invites all legal professionals and community stakeholders to celebrate the installation and swearing-in of our incoming Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and incoming President. In addition, we honor pioneers in our communities with our prestigious Historical Awards, which were named after historical trailblazers who embody the legacy and founding principles of the CCBA.

Please save the date for our 112th Installation and Awards Banquet on June 26, 2026 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., and stay tuned for the major announcement of our 2026 Historical and Presidential Awardees.

2025 HISTORICAL AWARDEES

Corporate Trailblazer Historical Awardee

Angelique Strong Marks

William R. Ming Historical Awardee

Standish Willis - (Posthumously)

George M. Leighton Historical Awardee

Hon. Bertina Lampkin

Meritorious Service Historical Awardee

Glori Bond

R. Eugene Pinchim Historical Awardee

Hon. Carol Howard

Ida Platt Historical Awardees

Kristen Clarke

Senior Counselor Historical Awardee

Jacqueline A. Walker

Junior Counselor Historical Awardee

Trevor Rogers

Harold Washington Historical Awardee

Aisha Cornelious Edwards

Richard E. Westbrooks Historical Awardee

Hon. Sidney A. Jones, III

Kenneth E. Wilson Historical Awardee

Hon. Judith C. Rice

Edward H. Wright Historical Awardees

Hon. Jonathan R. Jackson

J. Ernest Wilkinson, Sr. Awardee

Rep. Marcus Evans, Jr.

Judicial Awardee

Hon. Linda Sackey

ANNUAL PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS

In addition to our Annual Installation and Awards Banquet, CCBA hosts a variety of programs and events to engage members each year. Below is a list of enriching experiences and signature programs that we provide inside and outside the legal community.

STRONG PRESCENCE IN THE LEGAL COMMUNITY

> SIGNATURE EVENTS

- **Judges' Night** – On this night, CCBA continues its longstanding tradition of inviting current sitting members of the judiciary for a delightful celebration. During this event, we also honor a judge with an award for their relentless contributions on the bench.
- **Legend's Luncheon** – For this event, we honor a member of our Bar Association who is well-respected amongst the legal community and considered a “Living Legend” throughout the profession.
- **Next Generation Awards** – Launched in 2023, this awards ceremony was created to recognize the next generation of powerhouse Black attorneys under 40 years old, or practiced law for less than ten (10) years.
- **Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Geraldine Simmons Prayer Breakfast** – Our Hall of Fame ceremony recognizes distinguished members of the CCBA and members of the legal community, with the highest consideration given to those who have practiced law for at least 40 years, or who have excelled in the legal profession and achieved a unique honor or noteworthy position while supporting the mission of the CCBA.
- **Holiday Celebration** – This event occurs during the month of December to celebrate the holiday season in the form of a gala or reception.
- **Platt-Wheeler Legal Education Symposium** – This event pays homage to the first Black man and Black woman to be admitted to the Illinois Bar and it provides CLE programming for the purpose of advancing legal professionalism, ethics, thought, and practice for attorneys.



➤ LAW STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

- **Minority Law Student Job Fair** – Since 1983, the CCBA Job Fair is the oldest, largest, and most well-respected professional diversity employment event of its kind in the United States. The objective of the CCBA Minority Job Fair is to recruit the brightest talent amongst law students of color and match them with employers (law firms, corporations, government agencies, and public interest agencies) that truly value diversity.
- **Mentorship** – We believe in strengthening the pipeline for the next generation of lawyers entering the legal profession. Over the years, we designed programs to directly connect with law students for tips on surviving law school, obtaining valuable internships, passing the bar exam, and becoming highly-respected professionals in the legal community.

➤ CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION SEMINARS

We offer a variety of free educational programs to our members, which cover a wide-range of current legal topics from Artificial Intelligence, Family Law, Law Office Management, Trial Advocacy, Litigation Strategies, and much more. We also provide educational seminars through our Professional Development Committee for attorneys seeking to enhance their legal careers in private or public sectors.



As the Cook County Bar Association moves forward into another year of service, our commitment to community remains constant. We recognize that meaningful change happens through consistent presence, education, and action. Through our programs and partnerships, the CCBA proudly supports initiatives designed to meet community needs and strengthen pathways to justice.

UNWAVERING SUPPORT TO OUR COMMUNITIES

> LEGAL CLINICS

Our lawyers volunteer to provide free legal clinics in partnership with community stakeholders. In 2021, we hosted our first free virtual legal clinic that garnered over 70 participants. Most recently, we partnered with Wells Fargo Bank to host the Economic Empowerment Institute (EEI) that educated attendees on the importance of effective estate planning and wealth management—both from a legal and banking perspective. The EEI was designed to provide free financial services to underserved communities, while creating and retaining economic wealth within those areas. We also partner with other organizations to host expungement programs.

> LAWYER REFERRAL PROGRAM

CCBA offers its well-crafted Lawyer Referral Program that connects community members with quality legal representation across a multitude of areas of law.

> KNOW YOUR RIGHTS SEMINARS

Our rich history is embedded with examples of advocacy and education to communities in Illinois, and our Know Your Rights seminars offer valuable information to all attendees on a range of topics. For example, we published literature on COVID-19 Vaccinations in the Workplace at the height of the pandemic, hosted Voter Education programs with the NAACP, and presented a Know Your Rights forum on criminal justice issues in partnership with the Chicago Public Library.

> COMMUNITY GARDENING

In the past, our members volunteered to nurture and grow an organic harvest in a community garden on the southside of Chicago, then donated the harvest to local food shelters. Our harvest included bell peppers, eggplants, carrots, green beans, yellow and red pearl tomatoes, brussels sprouts, watermelon, and much more.

➤ COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRIES

There are a growing number of families suffering from food insecurity in Chicago. We regularly collect and donate food to local shelters, as well as volunteer at food pantries and feed those in need.

➤ STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

When students return to school, our bar association invests in their success by donating school supplies and building strong relationships early in their academic careers. For high school students, we host a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major For Justice Competition, where students compete in an oral and written advocacy competition addressing topics such as police brutality, reparations, and the ban on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in college admissions.

➤ CONNECTION WITH COLLEGE STUDENTS

The path to becoming a lawyer might seem daunting to college students. To this end, we formulated enlightening panels that include law students, lawyers, and judges to address the elements of success towards becoming a successful practitioner. We also offer mentorship and scholarships to pre-law students studying for the Law School Admissions Test.

➤ NON-PROFIT PARTNERSHIPS

In conjunction with our signature Holiday Celebration, we raise money and make donations to those in need. We recently partnered with Deborah's Place to collect gift cards for unhoused women and children.





WHY PARTNER WITH US?

As a leader in legal education and community engagement, the Cook County Bar Association relies on strong partners to advance our mission. By partnering with us, you help bring valuable resources to the legal community and create widespread benefits throughout Illinois.



VISIBILITY & INFLUENCE

Partnering with CCBA positions your organization in front of a diverse network of legal professionals, community leaders, judges, and decision-makers.



COMMUNITY IMPACT

Your partnership helps us deliver outreach programs, legal clinics, and public education efforts that directly support individuals and families throughout Illinois.



STRENGTHEN THE LEGAL COMMUNITY

Your support helps expand CLEs, and professional development opportunities that empower attorneys across Illinois.



SUPPORT ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Your investment helps sustain programs that promote diversity and expand access to justice.



INVITATION TO PARTNER

Dear Potential Partner,

The Cook County Bar Association (CCBA) is thrilled to invite you to join us for our **112th Installation and Awards Banquet**, taking place on **June 26, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago**.

This year's theme, "**Defending Justice. Defining Tomorrow.**", reflects our unwavering commitment to advancing equity, protecting fundamental rights, and shaping a future where justice thrives for all. For over a century, CCBA has stood as a beacon of advocacy and progress, and we have championed civil rights, fought systemic barriers, and empowered generations of legal professionals. We invite you to partner with us as we continue this journey. This past year, the CCBA increased its outreach with more community programs and services and will continue to meet the challenges of the time by working collaboratively with our partners. During the 2026-2027 bar year, we will further advocate for equality and justice for all, engage our legislators to safeguard our democracy and rule of law, and serve our membership in the advancement of their legal careers by providing training and education on emerging areas of the law.

With an anticipated audience of **400+ distinguished guests**, including judges, attorneys, civic leaders, and community advocates, this event offers your organization a unique opportunity to align with a legacy of leadership and a vision for tomorrow.

We have curated **partnership packages** designed to maximize your exposure and engagement, including on-site branding, digital promotion, and direct audience interaction.

We would be honored to have you as a valued partner for this momentous occasion and the year ahead. Enclosed, you will find details about partnership benefits and package options.

Together, let's **defend justice and define tomorrow.**

LeDeidre S. Turner, Esq., President-Elect

Raymond D. Rushing, Esq., 112th Installation and Awards Committee Co-Chair

Glori Bond, Esq., 112th Installation and Awards Banquet Committee Co-Chair

PARTNERSHIP LEVELS

PRESENTING SPONSOR \$50,000

- Designation as Presenting Sponsor for CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet
- Up to five (5) minutes of greetings or remarks by representative at the Awards Banquet
- Two (2) tables of ten (10) with reserved prominent seating at the Awards Banquet
- Opportunity to present one (1) Historical Award to our Honoree
- One (1) 10x10 Exhibit Booth near registration at Awards Banquet
- One (1) full page advertisement with premium placement in CCBA's printed program booklet for the Awards Banquet
- A total of five (5) tickets to attend two (2) signature Cook County Bar Association events during the 2026-2027 bar year
- Branding and logo placement for two (2) signature Cook County Bar Association event during the 2026-2027 bar year
- Listing on Cook County Bar Association's website, ticket purchasing website, and all related marketing materials
- Physical and electronic signage at CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet
- Premier placement on all electronic blasts for CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet

TITLE SPONSOR \$25,000

- Designation as Title Sponsor CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet
- Up to three (3) minutes of greetings or remarks by representative at the Awards Banquet
- One (1) table of ten (10) with reserved prominent seating at the Awards Banquet
- One (1) 10x10 Exhibit Booth near registration at Awards Banquet
- One (1) full page advertisement with premium placement in CCBA's printed program booklet for the Awards Banquet
- A total of five (5) tickets to attend one (1) signature Cook County Bar Association event during the 2025-2026 bar year
- Listing on Cook County Bar Association's website, ticket purchasing website, and all related marketing materials
- Opportunity to include handouts and/or product samples to attendees
- Physical and electronic signage at CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet
- Premier placement on all electronic blasts for CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet

PARTNERSHIP LEVELS (Cont.)

PLATINUM SPONSOR \$15,000

- Designation as Platinum Sponsor CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet
- One (1) table of ten (10) with reserved prominent seating at CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet
- One (1) full page advertisement in CCBA's printed program booklet for the Awards Banquet
- Listing on Cook County Bar Association's website, ticket purchasing website, and all related marketing materials
- One (1) 10x10 Exhibit Booth near registration at Awards Banquet
- Opportunity to include handouts and/or product samples to attendees
- Premier placement on all electronic blasts for CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet
- Four (4) tickets to attend one (1) signature Cook County Bar Association event during the 2025-2026 bar year

GOLD SPONSOR \$10,000

- Designation as Gold Sponsor CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet
- One (1) table of ten (10) with reserved seating at CCBA's 111th Installation and Awards Banquet
- Half page advertisement in CCBA's printed program booklet for the Awards Banquet
- Listing on Cook County Bar Association's website, ticket purchasing website, and all related marketing materials
- Premier placement on all electronic blasts for Installation
- Three (3) tickets to attend one (1) signature Cook County Bar Association event during the 2025-2026 bar year

SILVER SPONSOR \$7,500

- Designation as Silver Sponsor CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet
- One (1) table of ten (10) with reserved seating at CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet
- Half page advertisement in CCBA's printed program booklet for the Awards Banquet
- Listing on Cook County Bar Association's website, ticket purchasing website, and all related marketing materials
- Premier placement on all electronic blasts for Installation
- One (1) ticket to attend one (1) signature Cook County Bar Association event during the 2025-2026 bar year

PARTNERSHIP LEVELS *(Cont.)*

BRONZE SPONSOR 5,000

- Designation as Bronze Sponsor CCBA's 112th Installation and Awards Banquet
- Ten (10) Tickets to CCBA's 111th Installation and Awards Banquet
- Half page advertisement in CCBA's printed program booklet for the Awards Banquet
- Listing on Cook County Bar Association's website, ticket purchasing website, and all related marketing materials



THANK YOU!



LEIDEIDRE TURNER

President Elect



RAYMOND RUSHING

Installation Committee Co-Chair



GLORI BOND

Installation Committee Co-Chair



CORDELIA BROWN

Executive Director

The Cook County Bar Association wants to extend a warm thank you for your partnership with us.

For more information, please email our Executive Director, Cordelia Brown, at cbrown@cookcountybar.org.

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Disclaimer: All photos presented and names referenced in this Partnership Guide are solely used for informational purposes of highlighting Cook County Bar Association's history and events, and in no way are the individuals captured in the photographs or named herein, used directly or indirectly as a means to solicit any funds for the Cook County Bar Association.