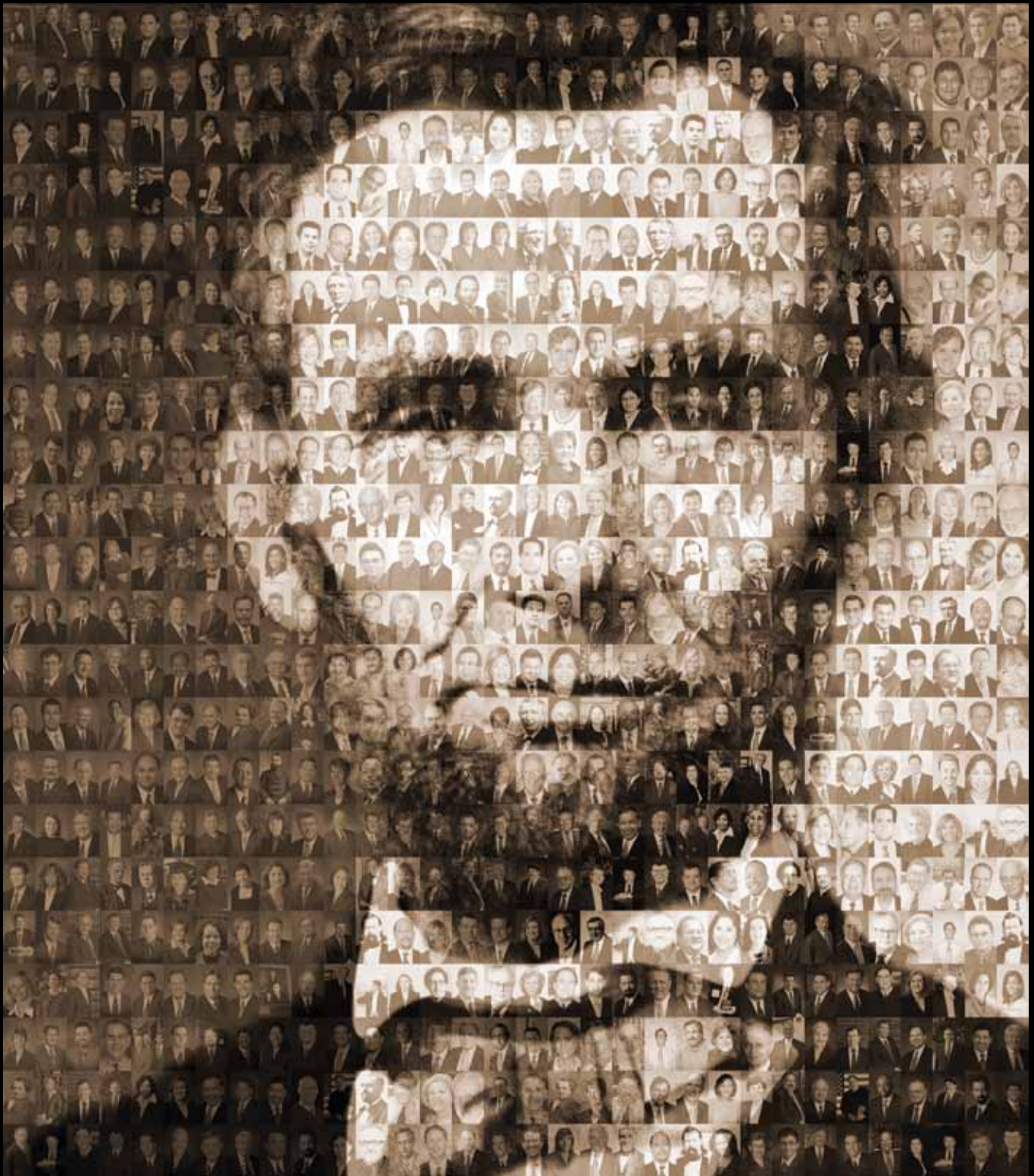


# ILLINOIS STATE BAR ASSOCIATION



*Welcome to the Bar* NEW ADMITTEES



# Welcome

Our state has a history of some pretty good lawyers.  
We're out to keep it that way.

## CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ADMISSION TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW.

You are now part of the Illinois bar, which has a long and proud history of distinguished members, including Abraham Lincoln, Clarence Darrow, Myra Bradwell, Barack and Michelle Obama, Jim Thompson, David Davis, Edgar Lee Masters, Mary Ann McMorrow, and John Paul Stevens, to name just a few.

The Illinois State Bar Association was founded in 1877 upon the following principle:  
*“To cultivate the science of jurisprudence, to promote reform in the law, to facilitate the administration of justice, to elevate the standard of integrity, honor and courtesy in the legal profession, to encourage a thorough and liberal education, and to cherish a spirit of brotherhood among the members thereof.”*

Throughout the years, the ISBA has been at the forefront of the legal profession in Illinois. Our Association has also had the privilege of being led by some of Illinois’ most influential lawyers.

Today, the ISBA is engaged in many important activities on behalf of the profession – among them proposing and shaping legislation, educating the public, and supporting the courts and the rule of law. **As a voluntary organization, the Association’s primary focus is to help Illinois lawyers practice more effectively and efficiently by providing time and money-saving services.**



We welcome you to the profession and to the Bar, as you become part of Illinois’ history of great lawyers.





# Your Lifelong Partner In The Profession



## JOB CHANGE IS A NATURAL LIFE PROGRESSION.

Most studies show that the average job-seeker will change jobs several times over the course of his or her lifetime. Although your practice or setting may change, the Illinois State Bar Association will be there for you throughout your career. As a member of the ISBA, you are a part of a much larger network of colleagues dedicated to helping one another practice more efficiently and profitably while upholding the ideals of the profession.

*"When you begin your professional career, you think there isn't enough time to get involved. But being involved in an organization like the ISBA gives you an aspect of professional development that you are not going to get just working in a law firm. It makes you a more well-rounded person and allows you to give back to the community and the profession. My friends in the ISBA were an integral part in helping me win the election. They provided advice and counsel, and also helped with my fundraising."*

**Former YLD Chair Franco Coladipietro**  
(Amari & Locallo, Bloomington)  
MEMBER SINCE 1993

*"The feeling that you are part of something bigger than yourself and bigger than your own community as a profession. That's important. You can get caught up in the minutia or stress of what we do as lawyers and not realize that we are part of a bigger movement which is what the Bar is about. When you... have just gotten out of law school, you don't necessarily appreciate that. The earlier you learn that, the more effective you can be in the development of your career. Being a member of the YLD helps you do that."*

**Former YLD Chair David C. Thies**  
(Shareholder at Webber & Thies, P.C., Urbana)  
MEMBER SINCE 1980



**Throughout your career, the ISBA will be here to support you in your professional needs.**





# A Community Of Future Leaders Of The Profession



## YOUR ADMISSION TO THE BAR MARKS THE START OF YOUR LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION.

The Illinois State Bar Association, through its Young Lawyers Division (YLD), is dedicated to helping new attorneys as they begin to meet their responsibilities as lawyers.

All ISBA members under age 36 are automatically enrolled in the YLD. In addition, those admitted 5 years or less are also members of the YLD. There you will find a forum in which you can interact with lawyers who share similar experiences. The YLD sponsors a wide range of networking and social events, volunteer activities, leadership opportunities, and educational programs throughout the state.

*"The YLD is the only network for young lawyers to participate in statewide leadership and training activities. Since my days in the YLD, I've become the Chair of several legal organizations and Boards. I owe much of my success to the experience I gained through my participation in the ISBA as a young lawyer. Most importantly, I met and married my husband while we served on the YLD Board!"*

**Former YLD Chair Hon. Diane Winter**  
(Circuit Judge, 19th Judicial Circuit, Waukegan)  
MEMBER SINCE 1982

*"If you look at the leaders of the ISBA, at least half of them came from the YLD. The role of the YLD, whether by purpose or not, has been to develop future leaders ... Network and get out there. These are the people you practice with, and these are the people you are going to think of for passing on business or offering a job."*

**Former YLD Chair Gregg Garofalo**  
(Managing attorney and owner of  
Garofalo Law Group, Chicago)  
MEMBER SINCE 1999

**The friendships you make by being involved in  
the YLD will last your entire career.**





# Practice Resources

## To Help Your Career

### YOUR LEGAL EDUCATION DIDN'T END WITH LAW SCHOOL.

The law is always evolving, new legislation is constantly passed, and emerging technologies change how we practice. Your membership in the Illinois State Bar Association provides you with tools, research, articles and seminars that will help you stay on top of your practice.

Membership in the ISBA is one of the best investments you'll ever make in your career. In addition to providing you with **FREE online legal research through Fastcase** (brought to you by the ISBA Mutual Insurance Company), the ISBA offers many different benefits to assist you in your practice. Our benefits range from providing information on substantive law topics to assistance in practice management issues.

**As a New Admittee, you are required by the Illinois Supreme Court to fulfill a 15-Hour MCLE requirement for Newly Admitted Attorneys within the first year of bar admittance with some exceptions (Rule 793).** The ISBA offers very affordable options to help you fulfill this requirement. For more information, please visit: [www.isba.org/cle/newadmittees](http://www.isba.org/cle/newadmittees).

As an approved partner in the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism's **Lawyer to Lawyer Mentoring Program**, the ISBA can also help pair you with an experienced mentor who will provide guidance in your first years of practice. Pairs will meet a minimum of eight times throughout the year to complete the Commission developed structured curriculum. You'll also earn MCLE credit to help satisfy your newly admitted attorney requirement. More information about the mentoring program can be found online at [www.isba.org/mentoring](http://www.isba.org/mentoring).

#### LAW ED – CLE For Illinois Lawyers

*"As an attorney who has only been practicing for 2 years and as a partner of a new firm, I found the [2011 Solo and Small Firm] conference to be an invaluable opportunity to obtain exposure to a wide array of topics which I would not ordinarily have been aware of without extensive research."*

**Lisa McLeod**  
(Partner with Lakeside Law Group, Chicago)  
MEMBER SINCE 2007

#### Fastcase – Free Online Legal Research

*"(At the 2009 Solo & Small Firm Conference) I learned how to use Fastcase, which is far easier to use than some of the competitor sites, and I love the fact that it's a free ISBA member benefit."*

**Michele Raven**  
(The Raven Law Group, Chicago)  
MEMBER SINCE 2009

#### Email Discussion Groups

*"It's like having all the benefits of a partnership without the office politics."*

**Melissa Maye**  
(Office of the Appellate Defender, Yorkville)  
MEMBER SINCE 1997

#### E-Clips – Daily Case Digests

*"I think E-Clips is a practical tool; I find myself checking it daily in order to get up-to-date in the latest case law."*

**Jean Kenol**  
(Associate at Mahoney, Silverman & Cross, LLC, Joliet)  
MEMBER SINCE 2001

**A complete and up-to-date listing of all ISBA member benefits can be found online at [www.isba.org/membership](http://www.isba.org/membership).**



# Getting Started With Your ISBA Membership

## YOUR FIRST YEAR OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE ISBA IS FREE.

You do not need to apply because we have already added you to our mailing list, and you will soon begin receiving the *Illinois Bar Journal*, the Young Lawyers Division bimonthly newsletter – *YLD News*, the *Illinois Lawyer Now Quarterly* newsletter, and other ISBA mailings.

However, **some ISBA benefits are only provided electronically and require you to provide us with your e-mail address.** Once you do, you will begin to receive our highly acclaimed *E-Clips* daily bulletin, containing the latest case law and legal news, and the *Illinois Lawyer Now Weekly* bulletin, a digest version of our online news site containing the latest legal news, briefs and photo galleries from around the state.

Included in this packet is a **New Admittee Membership Form**. This form can also be found online at [www.isba.org/membership/newadmittees](http://www.isba.org/membership/newadmittees). As a New Admittee, you automatically become a member of the ISBA Young Lawyers Division. You may also choose up to 2 additional ISBA sections to join at no charge. Please indicate on your form which sections you would like to join. Additionally, by fully completing the form, we will be able to better serve you by providing notice of specific opportunities, like CLE and substantive law section offers, to help you in your practice.

In the coming months, we will be sending you additional information to keep you informed about topics of interest to new lawyers and corresponding ISBA member benefits. Please keep an eye out for these mailings and add them to your folder. **If you have any immediate questions about your ISBA Membership, feel free to contact us at our Springfield office.** Contact information and office hours for both our Springfield and Chicago offices are located on the business card included in this folder.

In the meantime, we invite you to visit the ISBA Website at [www.isba.org](http://www.isba.org), where you can log on as a member using your last name and your membership ID number to access members-only areas of the Website and sign-up for member benefits, including free online legal research through Fastcase, our MentorCenter mentoring program, discounts on books and services, and more.

New Admittee  
Information



New Admittee  
Membership Form



New Admittee  
MCLE Requirement



Lawyer to Lawyer  
Mentoring Program



Young Lawyers Division  
[YLD]



Member Benefits &  
Marketplace Discounts



Our state has a history of  
some pretty good lawyers.

We're out to keep it that way.

Learn more at [www.isba.org](http://www.isba.org).



# ILLINOIS' MOST FAMOUS LAWYER

# ABRAHAM LINCOLN

## Prairie Lawyer – Master of Us All

### THE UNFINISHED WORK

It all began with a tragic event. A black man in an adjoining state had been given his freedom – and within a few hours – an angry mob beat him severely and then they chained him to a tree – and then, while he was still alive, they set him on fire.

Men and women of good will across the nation were outraged. Including a young lawyer here in Springfield, Illinois. He was a tall, lanky 29-year-old man from New Salem. He had just been admitted to practice law two years earlier.

His name was Abraham Lincoln.

He had been invited to give a speech at an institution known as the Springfield Lyceum. He was outraged by what had just happened. Listen closely – can you hear his voice?

*“There is no grievance for which mob law is either necessary, justifiable or excusable,”* he said.

*“Never violate in the least particular, the laws of the country and never tolerate their violation by others,”* he said.

*“Let reverence for the law . . . be taught in schools . . . and in colleges”.*

*“Let it be preached from the pulpit . . . and enforced in the courts of justice.”*

*“Let it become the political religion of the nation.”*

**Lincoln’s reverence for the law characterized his nearly 25 years as a member of the Illinois bar.**

He represented both great corporations and ordinary people. He met the legal needs of his clients – without fear or favor. As an advocate, he sometimes represented clients with whom he strongly disagreed. He sometimes won. He sometimes lost. He sometimes got paid. He sometimes did not.

**But throughout it all, his reverence for the law was undiminished – and his pride in his profession continues to inspire those who follow after him.**

In July of 1850, he prepared notes for a lecture on how to be a good lawyer. Listen closely – can you hear his words?

*“Never stir up litigation,”* he said. *“There will still be business enough.”*

*“Resolve to be honest,”* he said, *“and if in your own judgment you cannot be an honest lawyer, resolve to be honest without being a lawyer.”*

For nearly 25 years, he roamed the circuit – struggling to provide equal justice for all.

**The lawyers of Illinois are the rightful heirs of those struggles – and we reaffirm our willingness to assume those burdens – part of what Lincoln called the unfinished work.**

We do so as proud sons and daughters of the Land of Lincoln. We do so - because if we listen closely – we can hear his voice:

*“It is for us the living . . . to be dedicated . . . to the unfinished work,”* he said.

*“With malice toward none and charity to all,”* he said.

***“Touched . . . by the better angels of our nature.”***