



*The Chicago Chapter of the  
Federal Bar Association  
Commemorates the*

# **50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**

Open to the Public  
Free event 2 hours of CLE credit

**Thursday, May 8, 2014  
4:00-6:00 pm**

Dirksen United States Courthouse Ceremonial Courtroom  
219 S. Dearborn Street Chicago, Illinois

In 1964, Congress passed a landmark Civil Rights Act, signed by President Johnson which outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. President Kennedy had called on Congress one year earlier to pass legislation "giving all Americans the right to be served in facilities which are open to the public—hotels, restaurants, theaters, retail stores, and similar establishments", as well as "greater protection for the right to vote."

The Chicago Chapter of the Federal Bar Association is pleased to present a program commemorating this historic event. Moderated by Chief Judge of the District Court, Ruben Castillo, a panel of seven speakers will review the historic context in which this law was ultimately passed, review where we are today, fifty years later and look at where will should be going.

## PANELISTS

**Professor Kevin Gerard Boyle** is the William Smith Mason Professor of American History at Northwestern University. His 2004 book, *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age*, won the National Book Award and was nominated for a Pulitzer prize. His research covers 20th century American history where he studies the intersection of class, race, and politics.

**Hon. Ruben Castillo** is the Chief Judge of the District Court of the Northern District of Illinois. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Castillo worked in private practice, was an assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois and regional counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense Fund.

**Professor Kareem Crayton** is an Associate Professor of Law at the University of North Carolina School of Law at Chapel Hill. He is an innovative scholar whose work integrates law, politics and race. He is one of only a few academics with formal skills in both law and political science. His work addresses the relationship between race and politics. His commentary, insight, and analysis regularly appear in major media outlets including *The New York Times*, PBS, and Fox News.

**Hon. David Coar** served as United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois for sixteen years and as a United States Bankruptcy Judge for eight years. He was an Associate Professor of Law at DePaul University College of Law where he taught constitutional law. In private practice, he represented plaintiffs in a case involving the impact of Title VII in the merger of previously segregated lines of progression in the steel industry.

**Hon. Gustavo Gelpi** is a U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Puerto Rico and current national president of the Federal Bar Association. Prior to his appointment, he was a U.S. Magistrate Judge, Puerto Rico's Solicitor General, deputy Attorney General and Assistant Federal Defender.

**Nina Perales** is Vice President of Litigation for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, supervising the legal staff and litigation docket throughout the United States. She is best known for her work in voting rights, including redistricting and vote dilution cases. She also specializes in immigrants' rights litigation.

**Flint Taylor** is a founding partner of the People's Law Office in Chicago, which has been litigating civil rights cases for more than 40 years. Among the landmark cases Mr. Taylor has tried are the Fred Hampton Black Panther case and the Ford Heights Four Wrongful Conviction case. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2011 Northwestern Law School Distinguished Alumnus Award for "outstanding commitment to public service."