

**FAIR HOUSING/FAIR LENDING**  
**NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN AMERICAN AND INTERNATIONAL LAW**  
*October 1-2, 2010*

The October 1-2, 2010 conference focused on new developments in both American and international law affecting housing discrimination. In November 2010, the United States made its first report to the United Nations on its compliance with United Nations treaties supporting human rights in the United States. The conference highlighted the report as it concerned United States compliance with international requirements to eliminate housing discrimination. The John Marshall Law School Fair Housing Legal Support Center and Housing Action Illinois organized hearings in Chicago in April 2010 where a number of fair housing organizations and advocates discussed discrimination in the sale and renting of housing, discrimination in subsidized housing, and the impact of the foreclosure crisis on integration efforts Chicago. **Julie Fernandes**, Deputy Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice, **Bryan Greene**, General Deputy Assistant Secretary – Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, and **Karen L. Stevens**, Counsel, Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice shared their views with the participants on the impact of this report on future housing initiatives in the United States.

Friday morning focused on the foreclosure crisis. **David Berenbaum**, Chief Program Officer, National Community Reinvestment Coalition, gave the keynote address, which focused on the current response from Washington, and **Steven Rosenbaum**, Chief, Housing and Civil Enforcement Section, Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice, spoke on the new initiatives undertaken by the Department to combat discriminatory lending practices. These talks were followed by a panel discussion on the destabilizing impact of the lending crisis and the measures that are and are not taking place to counter the loss of homes and the re-segregation of communities. Panelists included: **Professor Michael Seng**, Co-executive Director, JMLS Fair Housing Legal Support Center and Clinic, **Sarah Duda**, Research and Project Associate, The Woodstock Institute, **Dan Lindsey**, Supervisory Attorney – Home Ownership Preservation Project, The Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago, **Katie Gottschall Donohue**, Director of Technical Assistance, Housing Action Illinois, **Michael van Zalingen**, **Kelli Dudley**, Project Coordinator, The John Marshall Law School Predatory Home Lending Project, **Mark Swartz**, Director of Building Programs, The Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing, **John Petruszak**, Executive Director, South Suburban Housing Center, and **Jeff Bartow**, Executive Director, Southwest Organizing Project.

The afternoon sessions began with a panel discussion on how the government can affirmatively further fair housing. **Robert G. Schwemm**, Ashland-Spears Professor, University of Kentucky College of Law, **John Relman**, Managing Partner, Relman, Dane & Colfax PLLC, **Steven Rosenbaum**, and **Bryan Greene** participated in the discussion.

This was followed by a panel discussion on discrimination in public and subsidized housing. **F. Willis Caruso** Co-executive Director, JMLS Fair Housing Legal Support Center and clinic, **Richard Wheelock**, Supervisory Attorney – Housing Law Project, The Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago, **Andrew Greenlee**, Research Assistant, Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement, University of Illinois at Chicago, **Christine Klepper**, Executive Director, Housing Choice Partners, **Kate Walz**, Senior Attorney, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, and **Kenneth Walden**, Managing Attorney, Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago, participated.

The Saturday discussion focused on discrimination in the private market. Panelists included: **Sharon Legenza**, Executive Director, Housing Action Illinois, **Bernard Kleina**, Executive Director, Hope Fair Housing Center, **Gail Schechter**, Executive Director, Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs, **Damian Ortiz**, **Allison Bethel**, **Betsy Shuman-Moore**, Director, Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Inc., **Mary Ellen Tamasy**, Executive Director, Lake County Residential Development Corporation, **Kevin Jackson**, Executive Director, Chicago Rehab Network, **Ryan Dowd**, Executive Director, Hesed House, Inc., and **Patricia Nix-Hodes**, Associate Director – Law Project, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless.