



Civitas ChildLaw Center

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Coffee Talk: Feb. 9	4:00-4:50pm Uzoamaka Nzelibe
Coffee Talk: Feb. 16	4:00-4:50 pm Dr. Kimberly Svevo
Annual Amaker Public Interest Law Retreat	Feb.18-20

COFFEE TALK SPEAKERS

This semester's Coffee Talk series will feature a range of presentations from persons working with, and on behalf of children. The series takes place on Wednesdays from 4:00-4:50 in the Child-Law Center, 11th Fl. On February 9th, our Coffee Talk speaker will be Northwestern Clinical Law **Professor Uzoamaka Nzelibe**. Her presentation will focus on immigration issues including the legal and personal

challenges of working with children and youth who are faced with deportation from



the U.S. Other speakers in the series include the Hon. Kathy Ryg, President of Voices for Illinois Children, Dr. Debra Ferguson, Senior Deputy Director of the Illinois Division of Mental Health, lawyers for children who established their own children's charity, and Loyola's own Professor Bruce Boyer with a first-hand account of the Supreme Court argument in *Camreta v. Green* (see below).

Camreta v. Green

On January 31, the Center filed an amicus brief in the case of *Camreta v. Greene*, which is set for argument before the United States Supreme Court on March 1. The case involves a claim that the warrantless, non-emergent two-hour interrogation of a nine-year-old disabled child about suspected sex abuse by her father, conducted by an investigator and an armed officer in the girl's school without her parents' knowledge or permission, violated the child's Fourth Amendment rights. The Center's Brief was authored by **Bruce Boyer and Miranda Johnson** and submitted on behalf of amici including the National Center for Youth Law, the Southern Poverty Law Center, the Clinical Social Workers Association, and Northwestern's Children and Family Justice Center, among others. The Center urged the Court to consider the harm to children associated with coercive and ineffective interrogation practices, and to affirm the Ninth Circuit's finding of a constitutional violation. The brief will soon be available on our website at www.luc.edu/childlaw



Faculty and Staff Updates

Congratulations to **Stacey Platt**, clinical professor and associate director of Loyola's Civitas Child-Law Clinic, who was named the **January 2011 Advocate of the Month** by Illinois Legal Aid Online.

Lisa Jacobs, Program Manager for the Illinois Models for Change Juvenile Justice Reform Initiative, which is housed in the ChildLaw Center, and Mark Hassakis, President of the Illinois State Bar Assn., co-authored an article in the January 2011 issue of the Illinois Bar Journal. The article was entitled "*What if it Were Your Child? What Would the Juvenile Justice System Look Like if We Knew Our Sons, Daughters and Grandchildren Would Go Through It?*"

Prof. Stacey Platt spent the week of January 24th in New Orleans as a faculty member in a litigation training program for domestic violence victims' advocates. The program was co-sponsored by the ABA Commission on Domestic Violence and the National Institute for Trial Advocacy.

Alumni News

Dorene Kuffer, LL.M. '02 has opened her own law practice, The Law Office of Dorene A. Kuffer, in Albuquerque, NM. Her practice will focus on criminal defense for juveniles and adults, and all aspects of family law. She can be reached at kufferlaw@gmail.com.

Save the Date: May 23, 2011 13th Annual Children's Summer Institute

The 13th annual Children's Summer Institute, convened by Loyola Law School and the Erikson Institute, is scheduled for **May 23-27**. The Carol Harding Lecture Series, held as part of the Summer Institute, will be **May 23rd** and will be exploring the disparities in child welfare decision making based on race and its impact on children and families. The May 23rd program is open to the public, and continuing education credits should be available. The full-week program is available for course credit to law students and non-law graduate students.

For more information, contact

Professor Anita Weinberg at aweinbe@luc.edu.

Working Conference for Juvenile Expungement Reform

On January 17th the ChildLaw Center hosted the "Working Conference for Juvenile Expungement Reform." This all-day event brought together youth, attorneys, and representatives from community-based organizations, local government, academia, and the media to learn about expungement and discuss efforts to reform juvenile expungement laws in Illinois. **Soledad McGrath, Post-Graduate ChildLaw Policy Fellow**, presented on concerns regarding current Illinois laws and possible legislative remedies. Other presentations focused on the history of expungement reform efforts and current efforts underway to educate communities about this issue.

The conference was

convened by the Steering

Committee of the Collaborative for Juvenile Expungement Reform. Members of the Steering Committee include the ChildLaw Center, the Juvenile Justice Institute, the MacArthur Foundation Illinois Models for Change Initiative, Enlace Chicago, Project NIA, and the Alianza Leadership Institute.



Speakers: Azim Ramelize & Sheldon Smith

Career Opportunities / Fellowships

Center for Human Rights of Children Fellowship: *Child Rights & African Youth*

The purpose of the 2011 faculty fellowship is to address the critical gap in research regarding child rights in **Africa**. The fellowship can support projects that identify a problem that has not previously been recognized, develop new policy ideas to address familiar problems, or offer a new advocacy strategy. Applicants may focus on any country or region in Africa.

Faculty and doctoral-level students at Loyola University Chicago (Lakeshore, Water Tower, and Maywood campuses) are eligible to apply for the 18 month award. Within this time frame, the Faculty Fellow is required to present their research project at a forum sponsored by the Center for the Human Rights of Children, and submit a paper for publication and/or conference.

Visit <http://www.luc.edu/chrc/> for a complete description of the fellowship and the application. The deadline to apply is **March 30, 2011**.



Child Welfare Law Summer Fellowship

Students who are planning on working in the area of child welfare during Summer 2011 are encouraged to apply for the Bergstrom/U. of Michigan Child Welfare Law Summer Fellowship Program. Fellowship recipients are brought to Ann Arbor for three days of comprehensive training to prepare them for their summer work. This year the training will be held May 23-25, 2011.

Applications are due on or before February 14, 2011. Applications are available on line at www.law.umich.edu/bergstrom. In addition to the application, applicants must send a personal letter, two references, and a resume. Further information is available from Alicia Lixey (lixey@umich.edu).

Entry Level Attorney Position with the Children and Family Law Divison (CAFL) in Mass.

A CAFL staff attorney represents children and indigent parents, primarily in care and protection, child in need of services, and termination of parental rights cases in Juvenile Court, but also in cases in Probate and Family Court. A staff attorney must be committed to serving a culturally diverse, low income population and must be eligible to practice law in Massachusetts. Anyone interested in applying should email a resume and a statement of interest to: Krista Lohr, Administrative Operations Manager klohr@publiccounsel.net

10th Annual Norman Amaker Midwest Public Interest Law Retreat

The Amaker retreat provides public interest law students in the Midwest with the opportunity to interact and network with lawyers, legal academics, peers, and other professionals who might provide practical guidance and mentorship and serve as role models for students eager to embark on a variety of possible public service careers.

The retreat is named for longtime Loyola Law Professor Norman Amaker, who committed his career to achieving social justice. It provides an opportunity for law students to work towards the same goal. The Amaker retreat promotes principles of service, invigorates the next generation of socially conscious lawyers and provides a forum for thinking about reform, change and the growth of public interest law and social change.

Here are a few details:

- **Theme:** "Building Public Interest Leader to Overcome Social Injustice."
- **Location & Date:** Loyola's Resurrection Retreat Center in Woodstock, IL from **February 18 to 20, 2011**.
- **Registration:** Interested students should visit the Amaker Retreat website at www.luc.edu/law/amaker or email Eleana Lindsey at elindsey@luc.edu for information on registering.
- **Fees:** Registration, food, and lodging fees have been waived for Loyola students.

Civitas ChildLaw Center

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Join the ChildLaw List Serve:

[http://lists.luc.edu/listinfor/childlaw.](http://lists.luc.edu/listinfor/childlaw)

The Loyola Civitas ChildLaw Center is dedicated to promoting justice for children through interdisciplinary teaching, scholarship and service, and through the development of a new legal specialty, pediatric law.



More Upcoming Events

Faculty and Staff Directory

Bruce Boyer - Director, ChildLaw Clinic, 915-7927, bboyer@luc.edu
Mary Burns - Community Projects Coordinator, 915-6811, mburns6@luc.edu
Catherine Columbus - Academic Program Coordinator, 915-7950, ccolumb@luc.edu
Sacha Coupet - Director of Research, 915-7134, scoupet@luc.edu
Hillary Coustan - Associate Director, ChildLaw & Education, 915-6026, hcoustan@luc.edu
Diane Geraghty - Director, Civitas ChildLaw Center, 915-7155, dgeragh@luc.edu
Miranda Johnson - Salisbury Fellow, 915-7944, mjohnson11@luc.edu
Michael Kaufman - Director, Education Law Institute, 915-7143, mkaufma@luc.edu
Soledad McGrath - ChildLaw Policy Fellow, 915-7949, smcgrath2@luc.edu
Stacey Platt - Associate Director of ChildLaw Clinic, 915-7931, splatt@luc.edu
Griselda Sánchez - Administrative Clinic Coordinator, 915-6481, gsanch3@luc.edu
Anita Weinberg - Director, ChildLaw Policy Institute, 915-6482, aweinbe@luc.edu

Council on Contemporary Families 14th Annual Conference

The Council on Contemporary Families announces its 14th Annual Conference on **April 8-9, 2011**, at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Student Center East. This year's theme is the "Tipping Point: When Minority Families Become the Majority." The conference will feature presentations by renowned scholars and practitioners while creating opportunities for small group discussion. A book party and reception will also be held to meet authors of recently published books about contemporary families.

Keynote Speaker: Daniel T. Lichter

Complete conference details, including the conference schedule and online registration, can be found at:

<http://www.contemporaryfamilies.org/conference/14thannualconference.html>