

Kenneth A. Gunn, Chairperson



Mr. Gunn currently serves as the Chairperson of the Cook County Commission on Human Rights. He also provides the Commission with a critical line of communication to its sister agency at the City where Mr. Gunn also serves as the First Deputy Commissioner of the City of Chicago's Commission on Human Relations. He has worked in the field of civil rights law for over twenty years with a focus on employment discrimination, housing discrimination, public accommodation discrimination and hate crimes.

Karina Ayala-Bermejo, Vice-Chairperson



Ms. Ayala-Bermejo is the Executive Vice President and General Counsel at Metropolitan Family Services and serves as the Executive Director of Metropolitan Family Services' Legal Aid Society. She brings a wide range of experience to the Cook County Commission on Human Rights including legal expertise in the areas of labor and employment law as well as practical human resources experience drawn from service as First Deputy Commissioner for the City of Chicago's Department of Human Resources prior to joining Metropolitan Family Services.

Jack Block



Mr. Block is an Adjunct Professor and Distinguished Practitioner in Residence at Loyola University Law School, where he teaches Mediation Advocacy, Advanced Mediation and a Mediation Practicum Course. Prior to teaching at Loyola, Mr. Block taught at Northwestern University Law School and the National Institute for Trial Advocacy.

As a practitioner, Mr. Block was a partner for many years at Sachnoff & Weaver (now Reed Smith), where in addition to his regular civil commercial practice, Mr. Block engaged in a number of high profile pro bono and public interest cases. For example, he represented Associations of African American, Latino, Asian and Women Contractors who intervened in a lawsuit challenging the City of Chicago's Affirmative Action Construction Program, helped recover more than \$20 million dollars for classes of persons victimized by payday loans, represented victims of brutal, racially motivated hate crimes, and participated in a class action on behalf of women who were illegally stripped searched by the Chicago Police Department. From 2007 to 2012, Mr. Block served as a Deputy Director of the Legal Assistance Foundation (LAF), where he oversaw projects working on a wide range of issues facing those persons living in poverty, including problems related to housing, consumer rights, children and family law, public benefits, employment, veterans and immigration. Together with Ms. Eatherton, Mr. Block led the revitalization of the Cook County Commission on Human Rights mediation program and formed a critical partnership between the Commission and the Center for Conflict Resolution.

Enoch Clarke-Bey



Mr. Clarke-Bey is the former Director of the Taxpayer Information and Customer Affairs Division for the Office of the Illinois Comptroller and a former Administrative Hearing Officer in the Cook County Government Labor Relations Division. He is a certified arbitrator and mediator for the U.S. Department of Justice. Mr. Clarke-Bey, who has a law degree, has demonstrated a lifetime commitment to civil rights issues and has been involved in many significant civil rights causes within Cook County.



Todd Connor

Mr. Connor is the CEO of Flank 5 Academy and CEO and Founder of The Bunker, the nation's first veteran business incubator focused on early-stage growth technology-enabled businesses.

Mr. Connor is a former management consultant, U.S. Navy veteran, and has held many leadership roles in the public and private sector. He is a two time entrepreneur, formerly led the Service Leadership Academies for Chicago Public Schools, and is the author of two books on leadership and personal strategy. Together with Ms. Ratner, Mr. Connor leads the Cook County Commission on Human Rights' educational and outreach efforts.



Ceylan Eatherton

Ms. Eatherton is a mediator and Adjunct Professor at Loyola University of Chicago School of Law where she teaches several courses relating to mediation. Prior to focusing on mediation, Ms. Eatherton was an attorney practicing civil litigation at the law firm Kirkland & Ellis LLP. She is also a board member, volunteer mediator, and trainer at the Center for Conflict Resolution.



Charles E. Harris, II

Mr. Harris is a partner in Litigation & Dispute Resolution group of the Law firm Mayer Brown LLP. His practice focuses on commercial litigation and arbitration.

Mr. Harris is frequently recognized as a rising star in the legal community, having received a number of accolades for his leadership and legal experience, including being named to the Super Lawyers "Illinois Rising Stars" list in 2013, 2014 and 2015, being honored in 2014 with The Network Journal "40 Under Forty" Achievement Award and the Illinois Diversity Council Multicultural Leadership Award.



Hedy M. Ratner

Ms. Ratner is the founder and co-president emeritus of the Women's Business Development Center.

An advocate and activist for women's empowerment issues, civil and human rights and women's business development for more than four decades, Ms. Ratner was appointed by President Clinton to the National Women's Business Council; by Illinois Governor Quinn to the Illinois Economic Recovery Commission, the Illinois Business Enterprise Council and the Governor's Women's Advisory Council; by Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley and Mayor Rahm Emanuel to the Mayor's Affirmative Action Advisory Council; and, by Cook County Board President Preckwinkle to the Cook County Minority and Women's Business Enterprise Council.

A leader amongst leaders and an advocate through and through, Ms. Ratner is the recipient of numerous awards honoring her impactful efforts, including the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award by Enterprising Women Magazine; 2013 Advocate Award from Entrepreneurs' Experience; 2012 Lifetime Advocacy Award from the Federation of Women Contractors; the 2011 Fifth/Third Bank Community Award; the Athena International 2011 Women's Leadership Award; Historic Achievement in Business Award in 2011 from Voting Women's Organization; 2011 Association of Women's Business Centers Leadership Award; 2011 SBA Women's Business Center Award; University of Chicago first Diversity Leadership Award in 2009 and the University of Chicago's prestigious Public Service Award; the Lifetime Achievement Award from Rainbow PUSH in 2006; the National Center for Women's Business Research Leading by Example Award; the Anti-Defamation League's Women of Achievement Award; the YWCA Leadership Award for Entrepreneurship; Bank of America Chicago Community Leadership Award; and the Governor's Women's Business Advocate of the Year Award and the U.S. SBA Advocacy Vision Award, to name a few.



Sheila H. Shultz

Ms. Shultz is a civic leader. She served as a Trustee of the Village of Wheeling from 1979 to 1981, and as its Village President from 1981 to 1997. Ms. Shultz is also a past President of the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, the Northwest Municipal Conference, and was the Vice-President of the Illinois Municipal Conference. Ms. Shultz is an icon of the Cook County Commission on Human Rights having served as a commissioner since its inception.